

Wednesday September 25 1996

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Judge calls for urgent change in law □ Outrage at defence case argued by lawyer

Fury over stalking case

Terror suspect shot six times

Stuart Miller and Clare Dyer

Pressure for an immediate change in the law on stalking intensified last night, when a judge called for it to be made a criminal offence after the conviction of an unemployed man who terrified a dental nurse for eight months.



"Is it fair that a young lady who dresses to attract, the queen bee attracting the drones, the queen bee that dresses to kill... cries foul because somebody finds her attractive?"

of referring him to the Bar Council.

Ms Bindel, who has referred it to the barristers' governing body, said: "This kind of attitude is responsible for the victim being made to take the blame. It is not women who should censor how they dress or where they go, but men who attack women who should be censured."

Leading criminal QCs condemned Mr Stanton's comments. Richard Ferguson, QC, described the remarks as "irrelevant and in poor taste".

In the absence of an anti-stalking law, prosecutors decided two years ago to try charging stalkers with causing actual or grievous bodily harm. The offences were intended to deal with physical assaults, but prosecutors argued they could cover psychological harm.

The argument has succeeded in some cases. Last March a former naval petty officer, Anthony Burstow, was convicted of causing grievous bodily harm to a former colleague, against whom he had waged a three-year hate campaign. But last week, another jury was ordered to clear Dennis Chambers, a 37-year-old van driver who offered no defence to a charge of grievous bodily harm on Margaret Bent, aged 30, a restaurant manager.

The judge told the court it was extremely difficult to prove intent in cases of psychological harm.

The Home Office issued a consultation paper in July promising new criminal offences to cover stalking and harassment, which could be law by next spring. Anyone who intentionally or unintentionally caused people to fear for their safety, or caused harassment, alarm or distress, would be guilty of an offence.

"Victims of stalkers would be able to apply for an injunction stopping them. Breach of the injunction would carry a penalty of up to five years in jail.

The court heard that during Miss Southall's ordeal, Morris twice threatened her with a blade-edged wallpaper scraper. Once, he had approached her wearing a pair of Y-fronts over his trousers, blowing a whistle, and brandishing the implement as he screamed for love for her.

He showered her with bottles of champagne, threw items of women's underwear into the dental practice in east London where she worked, and sent her 35 letters claiming he loved her. "I feared for my life. I was petrified," Perry Southall (above) said of the attentions of Clarence Morris (left). Morris, a convicted rapist, never laid a finger on her, but was found guilty on two assault charges after 200 incidents of harassment



Owen Bowcott and Sarah Boseley

FIVE IRA suspects were being interviewed by anti-terrorist branch officers last night as it emerged that Diarmuid O'Neill, the man shot dead by police in west London, had previous convictions connected to republican activities.

The 27-year-old, born and brought up in an Irish family who had moved to London, is understood to have been hit by six bullets during Monday's pre-dawn raid on a hostel in Hammersmith, west London.

O'Neill was educated at the London Oratory school in Knightsbridge, where Labour leader Tony Blair has sent his son. He worked as a cabinet-maker before joining the Bank of Ireland's branch in Shepherds Bush, west London, as a clerk.

In June 1988, he was convicted on three counts of defrauding his employers of £75,000. Sentenced to 12 months detention in a young offenders' institution, he eventually served five months. At his trial, it emerged that police suspected that £34,000 of the missing money had been channelled to the IRA through a bank account in Belfast.

One of those still being held is believed to be Diarmuid's brother Shane. According to several accounts, they had been living together in a house in Fulham, west London, which was also raided by police early on Monday. Another suspect being detained was a 21-year-old engineer from Northern Ireland, who had been working for British Airways at Gatwick.

Police were last night refusing to reveal whether any weapons had been recovered from the hostel where Diarmuid O'Neill died. Republican sources in Belfast alleged he had been shot as he answered the front door.

Brutal end, page 2

Mr Stanton told the jury of six men and six women: "Miss Southall chooses to make herself look, no doubt, as attractive as possible. She chooses to do that not only for her own satisfaction but because she likes the attention of others: men."

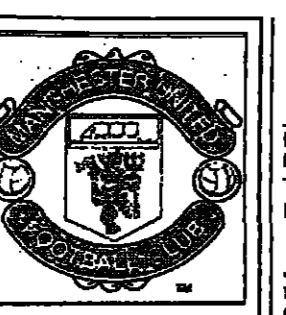
Mr Stanton, who likened Miss Southall to Pamela Anderson, whom he described as a "sexually active actress", suggested it was Morris's right to find her attractive.

"Is it fair that a young lady who dresses to attract, the queen bee attracting the

David Stanton (above), representing convicted rapist Clarence Morris

drones, the queen bee that dresses to kill... cries foul because somebody finds her attractive?"

Judge Butler took the unusual step of criticising the remarks in court. "May I publicly and entirely dissociate myself from your comments as to that which I believe ought never to have been made." But he stopped short



The Daily Mail calls him Britain's pornographer-in-chief. Seldom seen without a cigar, his support of the arts is legendary. Now he wants to buy Manchester United. Who is he? Page Three

Minister blows Tories apart over EMU

Rebecca Smithers Political Correspondent

THE Tories plunged further into crisis over Europe yesterday, as John Major's attempts to maintain unity on the single currency were blown apart by a junior minister's criticism of the Chancellor for being "out of line".

weekend when Mr Clarke said it would be "pathetic" if Britain waited for other countries to launch a single currency before deciding whether to join, and that it should be in the first tranche of entrants to be better placed for decision-making.

But the Foreign Office minister and Eurosceptic Sir Nicholas Bonsor attacked Mr Clarke, saying his comments had highlighted Tory divisions on Europe, and that he was out of line on government policy.

Downing Street quickly restated the Cabinet's official position, which is to keep its options open. "Many issues of importance to the UK remain

to be resolved. These will affect the UK whether we are in a single currency or not and it is right that Britain should play its full role in the negotiations," they said.

Earlier, Sir Nicholas had stoked up the row when he told BBC Radio 4's World at One that the Chancellor's comments had undermined attempts to restore party unity. "I don't think it was helped by Kenneth Clarke's comments but I think the vast bulk of the Conservative Party both in Parliament and in the country agree with the Prime Minister that we should not go into a single European currency without putting it to the people first

by way of... a referendum," he said.

"I think he will be out of line with the view of the vast majority of the party and I think it is out of line with what the Government policy has been."

Mr Major made it clear earlier this week that he was furious with Mr Clarke for departing from the Cabinet line. But yesterday Sir Edward Heath declared Mr Clarke "an excellent Chancellor" and warned that he and his pro-European allies would fight the Eurosceptics "all the way". Sir Jim Lester MP accused the Eurosceptics of "a conspiracy" to oust Mr Clarke, while the former cabinet

minister Sir Leon Brittan said he had managed "the most successful period in the British economy for a very, very long time".

But the confusion among senior Tories emerged as Downing Street insisted Mr Clarke supported Cabinet policy and that his views had been misrepresented. It also claimed Sir Nicholas "gave his interview on the basis of press reports of the Chancellor's views and Sir Nicholas accepts he was mistaken".

Douglas Hurd, the former foreign secretary, will today urge the Mainstream Group of left-wing Tory MPs to fight the Eurosceptics ahead of the party conference next month.

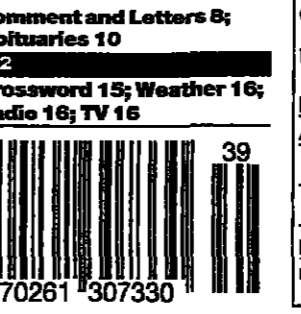
Inside Britain As figures showed crime rising again, Home Secretary Michael Howard said the public had failed to appreciate earlier falls.

World News Germany is embroiled in debate over chemical castration after a child-abuser said he murdered a girl, aged seven.

Finance The Government is drawing up fresh plans to privatise the country's air traffic control service ahead of the election.

Sport Britain went back into the European football fray last night with the return matches in the UEFA Cup first round.

Comment and Letters 8; Obituaries 10; G2; Crossword 15; Weather 16; Radio 18; TV 18



The Guardian International & The Observer Travel Bag advertisement with details on pricing and ordering.

2 NEWS

Sketch

Come up and see me after the poll



Simon Hoggart

ON SUNDAY night, at the start of the Liberal Democrat conference in Brighton, a young party activist noticed a friend chatting up a girl in the bar.

The couple shortly disappeared and the young fellow, much the worse for drink, thought it would be amusing to go up to his friend's room in the Metropole Hotel. He stood outside, humbly shouting, "Let me in, let me in! I know you've got a totty in there!"

All of which was most alarming for the actual occupants of the room. Paddy Ashdown and his wife Jane. The intended victim was a member of Mr Ashdown's staff, and the prankster had been confused by seeing him emerge from the leader's room earlier in the day.

Anyhow, Mr Ashdown shouted "Go away, whoever the hell you are" or words to that effect, then called for security. The youthful inebriate managed to get away in time.

Hope that Mr Ashdown, on hearing the accusation, did not immediately reach for his trousers. But the startling interruption of his night's sleep (plus the fact that he was rehearsing into the small hours yesterday) might account for the somewhat lacklustre delivery of his conference speech yesterday afternoon.

It wasn't a bad speech, but it was an awfully long speech. At times, Mr Ashdown seemed less convinced by it than some of his audience. On occasion he seemed surprised to hear them applaud, and ploughed on to the next paragraph before they had finished.

The speech was preceded by a short video showing Cap'n Ashdown meeting the real people of Britain. Like him, they all turned out to have crinkly eyes. After 17 years of Tory rule, we are a crinkly-eyed nation. There were crin-

kly-eyed schoolchildren, teachers and engineers. He helped push out a lifeboat with a group of crinkly-eyed lifeguards. Like him, they used their crinkly eyes to gaze up at the future, as if they'd just spotted a 20-ft high Fame-Ars Anderson.

The one thing that puzzles me about these videos, Labour and Liberal alike, is that they all depict Britain as a kind of Elysium or Shangri-La. Happy, clear-sighted, crinkly-eyed people live amid glorious, historic cities bathed in golden sunlight, work in dazzling hi-tech factories, or in light, spacious classrooms.

No doubt there is some adman there saying, "No sweets, all those are art factories are such downers! We don't want doomy and gloomy, we want vibrant!" The consequence is that every party political broadcast these days, including this, looks as if it was made for the Tory Government.

Isat among the delegates for the speech, and I have to say that the film could not have been received more cynically by my press colleagues. When Paddy and Jane walked hand in hand through a flowery meadow, their figures framed in the centre of the light, the row behind me sniggered, presumably because they were reminded of Labour's famous 1987 video, which I thought of as Jonathan Livingstone Kinrock.

When Mr Ashdown crinkled his eyes and rustled a newspaper, they shouted: "Look, he's checking his lottery numbers."

The speech itself was cunningly addressed both to the conference, and to his real audience, the Labour leadership. All political conferences are a little like car dealerships run by the Mob — they are front operations for the money laundering.

Front of house, the staff believe they are running a nice honest business. Behind the scenes, the deals are being cut, the pay-offs delivered, the police chief squared, the occasional knee-cap rearranged.

In the same way, Mr Ashdown's speech was one for the cognoscenti. The criticisms of the Tories were ferocious, those of Labour muted. Or, as a colleague put it, "his message to Blair was, 'your place or mine?'"

Party leader claims only Lib Dem influence can force key issues on to Blair's post-election agenda

Ashdown: time for Tories to go

Michael White
Political Editor

PADDY Ashdown yesterday warned the British electorate that "truth will be a bystander" at the coming election because the Conservative campaign of fear would be matched by Labour timidity unless the Liberal Democrats can force the real issues on to the agenda.

In a defiantly upbeat speech to the party conference in Brighton, the Liberal Democrat leader abandoned all pretence at even-handedness between the Tories — "They

must go" — and Tony Blair's government-in-waiting.

Instead, he hammered home the theme that only a strong contingent of Lib Dem MPs would keep Labour to its promises and help turn Britain into "a more prosperous nation with a more generous heart." But there was no hint as to exactly how Lib Dems might co-operate with Labour.

Mr Ashdown singled out Europe, constitutional reform, public spending — where the "John Major Debt" cost every family £650 a year in interest payments alone — and environmental issues as areas where 35 or 40 Lib Dems, the leadership's informal tar-

get figure, could make a decisive difference in the new Parliament.

Where the Tories were concerned, his tone was harsh: towards Labour it was at worst condescending. "The Tories tell lies on tax, hoping to win again. Labour dodge the truth, hoping not to lose again," he said.

The Blairite U-turn on Scottish devolution had proved that "the great cause of reform is not safe in Labour's hands." The choice voters faced was between continuing sleaze under Mr Major and Labour good intentions that could "founder on middle and weak commitments."

To bursts of applause from

party activists during his hour-long address, Mr Ashdown likened Britain in the 90s to the ill-led country Churchill revitalised in 1940. The talents of its people, if properly used, were its greatest asset.

"This country is not the mean, selfish, uncompassionate nation the Tories have tried to make us these last 17 years. But the true spirit of our country will remain hidden if the only choice we are offered is the choice between fear and timidity."

Mr Ashdown lambasted Tory reliance on fear in what he predicted would be a negative campaign and said the only effective antidote was

hope. A generous sprinkling of Lib Dem pledges, from tax and welfare reform to an "educational renaissance", were dotted throughout the speech to buttress that claim.

Predictably Mr Ashdown contrasted his own party's unwavering commitment to Europe and a single currency if possible with the hesitations of his rivals.

Claiming that remaining outside could cost the average family £10 a week in higher interest rates, Mr Ashdown insisted that a single currency would be good for Europe.

"And if it comes, and Britain should be a part of it,"

But he made even more of the £160 billion addition to the national debt since Mr Major became prime minister in 1990 — "and he was trained as a bank manager," he quipped.

As Mr and Mrs Ashdown walked out of the hall, amid the usual conference razzamatazz, the applause lasted four minutes. Within minutes, the Tory chairman, Brian MaWhinney, denounced the speech.

"His so-called patriotism would break up Britain and surrender to Brussels control over our defence and immigration policies," he said.

Leader comment, page 8

First night

Genocide gets trial by theatre

Michael Billington
The Handymen
Minerva, Chichester

"STRONG stuff" said the lady behind me at the Minerva Theatre after Ronald Harwood's *The Handymen*. Indeed it is. For, like Harwood's *Taking Sides*, it deals with big issues such as moral guilt, responsibility and retribution; and it is that ability to handle them that compensates for the play's flaws.

Taking Sides presented us with a famous conductor, Furtwängler, accused of complicity with the Nazis. Here we are presented with an aged odd-job man, Romka, who has worked loyally for a Sussex family for 50 years and is investigated by Scotland Yard's War Crimes Squad for his involvement, as a member of the Ukrainian militia, in the slaughter of 817 Jews in 1941. We hear the patiently documented evidence against him and are allowed to draw our own conclusions.

But Harwood is less concerned with the issues the case raises. Is the pursuit of old men, now British citizens, under the new War Crimes Act, a form of pointless retribution? Or does the morality of justice mean murder should never be condoned or forgotten? And do we hide behind the concept of individual "evil", absolving a whole society of responsibility for genocide? Many writers, from Hannah Arendt to George Steiner, have aired these issues but it is bracing to hear them debated in a theatre.

My main qualm is that Harwood makes Romka's chief

apologists so unsympathetic it slightly skews the debate. In particular Cressida, whose late father engineered Romka's passage to England and who herself regards the old Ukrainian as a saintly domestic protector, is seen as a Catholic hysteric who finally argues the Holocaust is a Jewish fantasy. Even her husband is a City boy who suggests genocide is a form of primitive culling. Given such attitudes, it is all too easy to sympathise with Romka's solicitor, Marjan, who argues both for our duty to the dead and for the accused's right to a fair trial.

But, even if Harwood loads the dice, the play still opens up an evidence debate. Christopher Morahan's admirable production also gives the play a quasi-documentary tone so that even the least likeable characters, played by Kate Lynn-Evans and Hugh Bonneville, are not allowed too far off the leash.

But the best performance comes from Frank Finlay, whose Romka is a mixture of physical frailty and moral vigour. He shuffles around the Sussex garden as if about to fall apart, yet protests his innocence to his interrogators with suspect fervour. Sheila Burrell also offers staunch support as a religious Sister, whose eyewitness account of atrocities is delivered with chilling exactness.

Harwood's characters may exist primarily as vehicles for moral debate. But the argument itself, not least about the need to strike a balance between legal fairness and historical culpability, is gripping.

At the Minerva Chichester (01243-781312) until September 28, and then on tour

David Sharrock reports on the amiable youth who kept his double life hidden from those who were closest to him

HE WAS a big fellow, always smiling, his red hair making him stand out in the busy summer bars of West Cork's Irish Riviera.

In Maddens bar in Timoleague on the Carbery Coast, they are used to seeing famous people rub shoulders with the locals. Sir David Puttnam has a house nearby, just one of the many wealthy English people who spend their summers gorging on seafood and Guinness.

Irish people with English accents are rarer, and ones who can afford their own holiday retreat are happy evidence that you can get on in the world and still never lose the love of your own country.

Diarmuid O'Neill believed he loved his country so much he was willing to die, or even kill, for it. None of the regulars at Maddens, or the Pink Elephant overlooking the magnificent Bay of Kinsale, knew this. To them he was just another baggy-go-lucky visitor, forever in the company of his father, Eoghan, and his mother, Teresa, a feisty Dubliner known as Terry.

An IRA man? The news was met with shock by the people who live in these little villages of brightly painted cottages, where Marian shrines still display freshly cut flowers every day and the only trouble the police ever have to deal with is getting the pubs shut within licensed hours.

"They were not big drinkers. They came here most nights for the company and were good fun, very nice people," said publican Charlie Madden yesterday of the family group, which often included Diarmuid's brother, Shane. "We never heard them say anything controversial. We don't believe they were involved in anything."

Next to the O'Neills' pretty dormer cottage with its fine sea views lives Pat Joe O'Brien, a farmer who spoke with the dead man's parents a few hours before the news reached them on Monday. Eoghan and Terry had moved over permanently when she retired 18 months ago from her job as bursar in a London college.

"Nobody around here ever associated anything like IRA activity with that family," he said. "They were very nice, quiet people, who fitted in very well with everyone around."

A few days earlier the O'Neills had celebrated Mass with him and they were regular visitors to the local Roman Catholic chapel. Diarmuid had last been there on holiday in the summer. In July they had all celebrated Eoghan's 60th birthday.

Johnny Keoghane, a postman, spoke to Diarmuid's parents shortly after the Irish police told them what had happened in London. "Eoghan rang me about 4.30pm. He was crying and in a terrible state. He just said something awful had happened in London, that Diarmuid had just been shot in some kind of IRA thing."

The grieving parents left

immediately. At Heathrow they were met by their daughter, Siobhan, a London nurse.

Behind them they left disbelief among their friends. But Garda Special Branch knew a different "big fellow". According to police sources in Co Cork, Diarmuid had been suspected of being an IRA sympathiser or member for at least five years, when he was seen with local republicans.

In 1988 he was convicted of stealing £75,000 from the Bank of Ireland branch in Hammersmith, west London, where he had just begun work as a clerk. At

his trial it was claimed that £34,000 was channelled to the IRA via an account in Belfast. He served five months of a one-year sentence in a young offenders' institution.

It was an inauspicious start to adulthood after education at the exclusive RC Brompton Oratory School in Knightsbridge. After leaving prison he went on to earn a living as a cabinet-maker. On his frequent visits to Ireland he was not kept under close surveillance, but Gardai knew of his movements, according to a senior officer in Cork. "Whether he was on IRA business during his visits or not is another question," he added.

It seems likely that he was a politically aware young man, conscious of his family's past. A great uncle, Donald O Buachala was elected to the first Dail in January 1919, the year British rule crumbled and Sinn Fein swept to victory, taking almost every seat in the island save for the north-east, where Unionism stood firm.

He would have known the history of West Cork too, the heroic adventures of the IRA commander Tom Barry's Flying Column, 300

men who inflicted stinging defeats on the 12,500-strong British forces gathered in the county in the weeks before the 1921 truce.

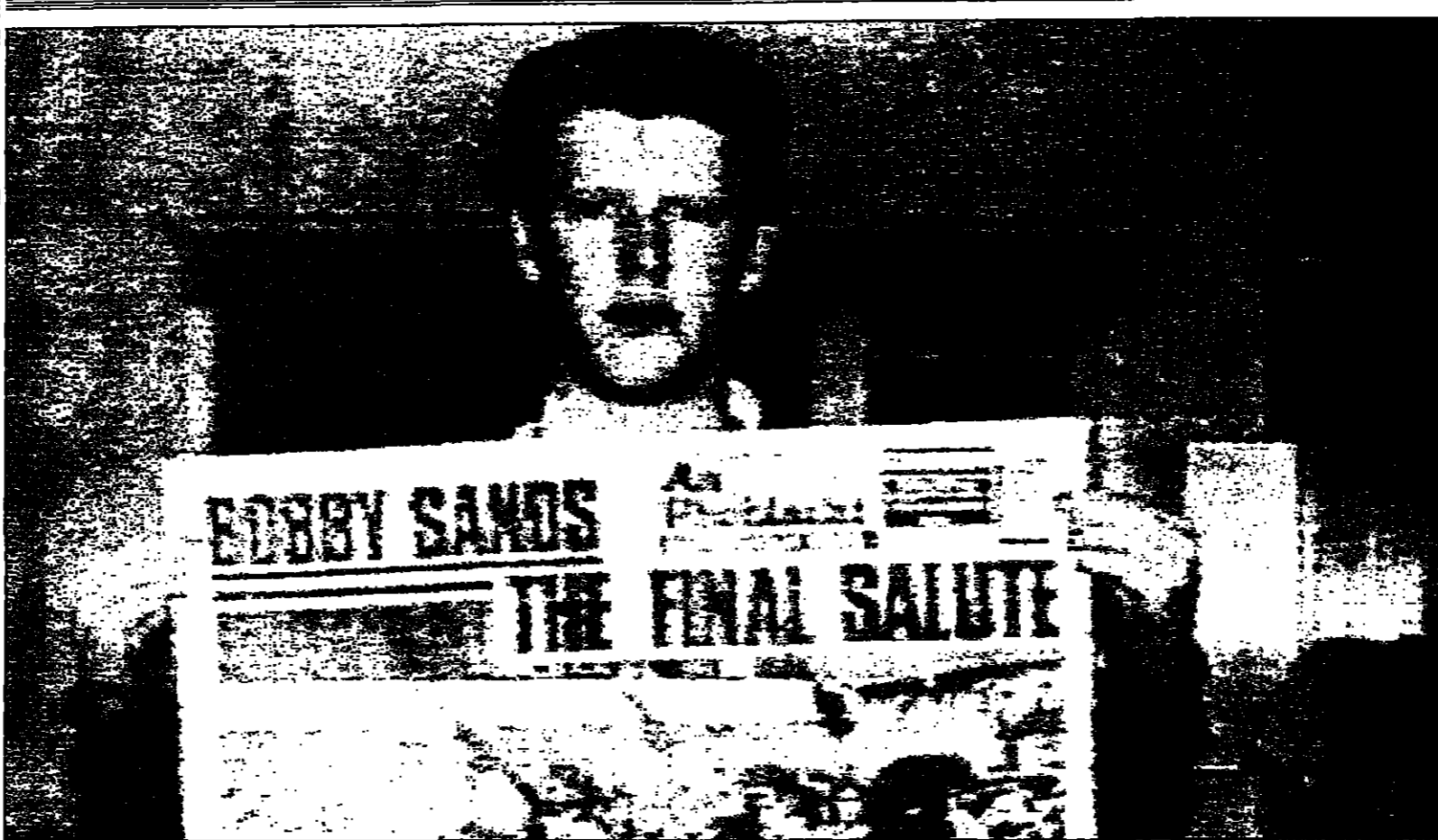
The county is steeped in republicanism, although there are nowadays only pockets of active members. For the vast majority, Cork's history is best left in the history books, for here there were pogroms against Protestant communities.

In Kiltbritain itself, a Royal Irish Constabulary man was killed by the same IRA volunteers who took part in the killings of Protestants and who then went on to murder Michael Collins — the original Big Fellow — at Beal na Blath when pro and anti-truce forces were fighting a civil war.

Diarmuid would have known all this. Every summer there are republican commemoration ceremonies to remember their fallen. Collins this summer is once more emerging into the light as the IRA man turned statesman who might have changed the course of history had he lived. It is hard to imagine that the young red-headed boy with the English accent did not pay his own homage at the shrine.

'Nobody around here ever associated anything like IRA activity with that family. They were very nice, quiet people, who fitted in very well with everyone around.'

Pat Joe O'Brien, a neighbour



To compatriots in Cork Diarmuid O'Neill, seen here holding Republican News, was an easy-going expatriate who came for holidays

Disgraced bank clerk who met a brutal end

I will not step down, defiant Yeltsin warns rivals

David Hearst in Moscow

DOWN but not out, Boris Yeltsin yesterday launched a proxy political counter-offensive, warning rivals that he was still president of Russia and had no intention of resigning.

As he awaited the outcome of a meeting of Russia's top heart surgeons at the Central Clinical Hospital, the president, aged 65, issued a series of statements through his aides aimed at warding off baying predators.

The prime minister, Viktor

minutes: "He reacts painfully [to talk of resignation], does not accept it at all, and in general such a thing is out of the question now."

Then the Russian heart surgeon who had said Mr Yeltsin had suffered a heart attack in July and would not be fit for surgery for up to two months softened his line. Asked if cancellation of the operation was an option, Professor Renat Akchurin said: "No."

The statements coincided with announcements from the Kremlin about the president's workload in hospital. According to the presidential press

secretary, Sergei Yastrzhembsky, Mr Yeltsin worked through a package of between 20 and 70 documents daily.

The statements appeared to lay the ground for announcing that Mr Yeltsin may be in hospital for some time.

The communist Speaker of the state Duma repeated calls for the president to resign. Gennady Seleznyov called on doctors to release full details of the president's condition.

The communist faction, the largest in the Duma, has promised to press for the creation of a medical commission to decide on the presi-

dent's fitness for office when the Duma meets next week.

But Mr Yeltsin fears rifts in his own Kremlin administration. Mr Chernomyrdin, who becomes acting head of state during the operation, denied any split in the leadership: "I do not recognise any groups, they do not exist."

But General Alexander Korzhakov, Mr Yeltsin's former bodyguard, said in a newspaper interview that he backed the security chief, General Alexander Lebed, as the next president.

Gen Korzhakov warned that he had compromising

material about "high officials" who siphoned money off to foreign bank accounts.

Gen Lebed has promised to help Gen Korzhakov by "giving" him his deputy's seat in Tula, vacant since Gen Lebed took up his post as secretary of the security council. Gen Korzhakov could offer the inexperienced former paratrooper invaluable information about his political foes.

Meanwhile, the United States cardiologist Michael DeBakey, aged 88, who is in Moscow for the meeting, refused to answer questions until he had seen Mr Yeltsin.

Renat Akchurin... softer line on delayed surgery

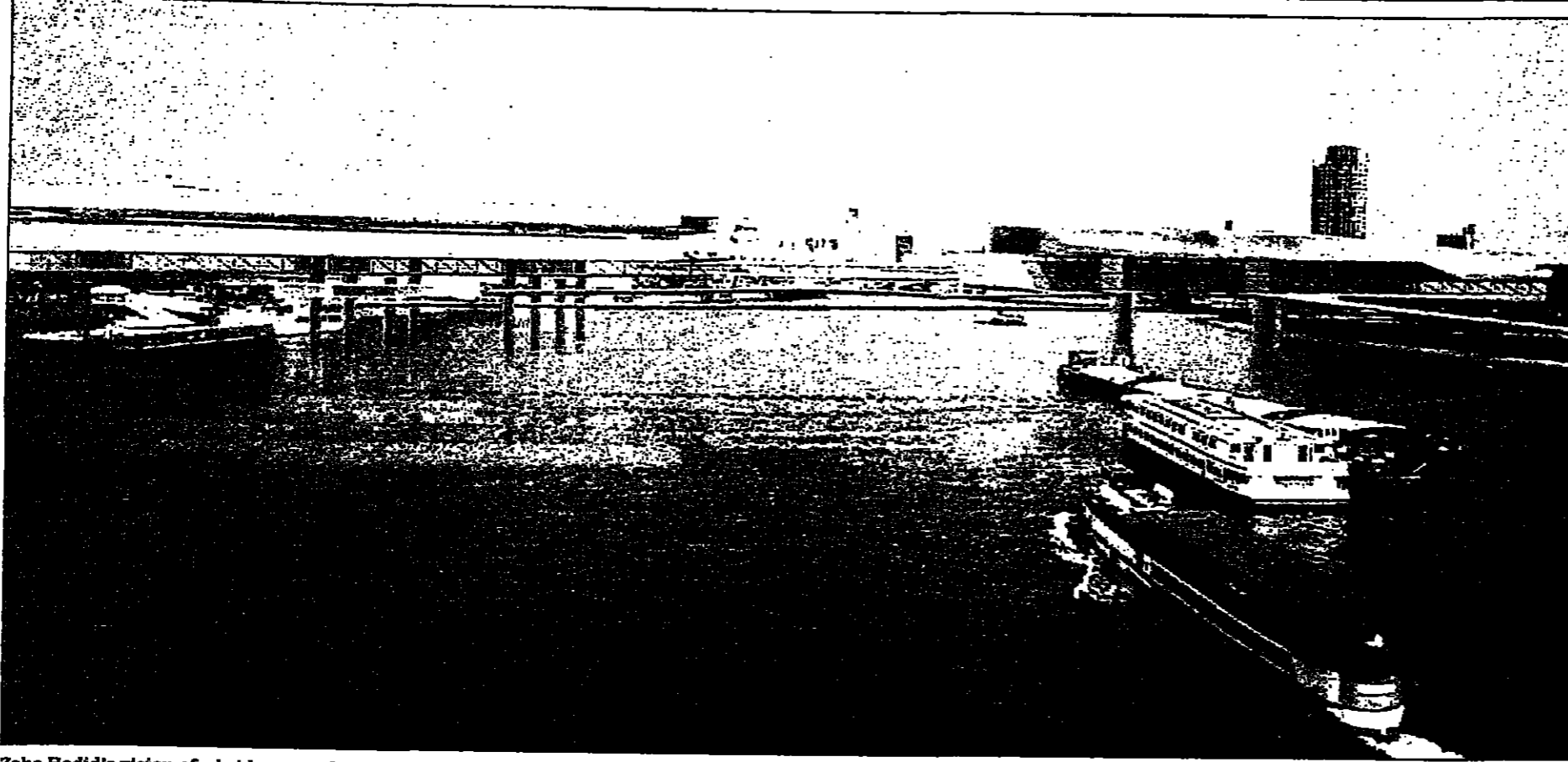
Chernomyrdin, said after meeting Mr Yeltsin for 40

THREE CHEERS.

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مكتبة جامعة القاهرة



Zaha Hadid's vision of a bridge over the Thames, with blocks of accommodation at either end and a transparent central section

A bridge too far for developers?

Maev Kennedy on the double winners of an architectural contest to cross the Thames - and their uncertain prospects

THE controversial British architect Zaha Hadid shrugged yesterday on learning that she had won yet another prestigious architectural competition with a design which may never be built. "Who knows?" she said resignedly.

Ms Hadid, Iraqi born and London based, hit the headlines when she won an international competition to design a new opera house for Cardiff Bay, and hit them even bigger when the project was scuttled as non-viable by the Millennium Commission.

Yesterday her first ever bridge design was declared joint winner, with one by the French architect Antoine Grumbach, of a competition for a £70 million habitable bridge across the Thames in London, which has neither a definite site, funding nor a developer.

However, the Environment Secretary, John Gummer, has thrown his support behind the project, organised by the Royal Academy of Arts, and said yesterday he was confident a private developer will take up the challenge.

"This bridge will be a confident statement for the millennium of this generation but in a great tradition," he said.

Mr Gummer said the judges found it impossible to choose between two utterly different but equally bold designs.

Mr Grumbach, who is working on several urban regeneration projects in France and won the French national award for excellence in urban design in 1988, designed a garden bridge including a tropical greenhouse leading to a glass tower of cafes, offices and flats.

In striking contrast, Ms Hadid's design is in cantilevered sections of glass, steel and concrete, with blocks of accommodation high above cafes and offices at either end, thinning to a light transparent central section.

A feasibility study by consultants KPMG found the bridge commercially viable without public or lottery funding.

The competition was held to coincide with an exhibition on habitable bridges at the academy, organised in collaboration with the Pompidou Centre in Paris.

The exhibition, designed by Nigel Coates, opens tomorrow and runs until December. The exhibition includes models by all seven architects invited to compete, and the public will be invited to vote on its choice for a bridge to link Temple with the South Bank. It would be the first habitable bridge built in Britain since Pulteney Bridge in Bath in 1773.

The history of bridge competitions, as outlined in the exhibition, is not encouraging. In 1988 Cedric Price, working for the GLC, proposed to get rid of the smelly old river completely, and pave over the space between Waterloo and Westminster Bridges - thus creating, the design boasted, a new uncultured public space eight times the size of Trafalgar Square.

In 1944, W. F. C. Holden proposed to replace the bomb-battered Tower Bridge with a shiny new glass box over twice the size - the City shuddered and repaired the Victorian iron instead.

If Ms Hadid's bridge is never built, she can take comfort from Gustave Eiffel. He designed a glorious bridge over the Seine for the Paris Exposition Universelle of 1878, but the project foundered. In 1889 there was another Paris exhibition. Eiffel came back with another design - and this time built his tower.

Her designs begin in the form of paintings - striking spatial explorations that initially gave some people the impression that she was concerned only with unbuildable fantasies. But her dynamic compositions translate powerfully into three dimensions as can be seen in the fire station she designed for the Vitra furniture company - now used as an adjunct to the Vitra furniture museum, in south Germany - and a block of flats in Berlin. For Vitra, Hadid produced a floating iceberg-like wall of steel erupting from the ground.

Influenced by the constructivist she may be, but Hadid is an original. A powerful presence, in trademark Issey Miyake, Hadid has been one of the small international group of architects that have set the agenda for the avant-garde over the last decade. Her emergence in the early 1980s as a significant talent seemed confirmed when she won the international competition in

Cardiff Bay Opera House with controversial glass necklace design, beating 268 rivals. January 1995: Unprecedented second run-off. Hadid confirmed as winner, but project rejected by Millennium Commission in December. June 1996: New competition for Cardiff announced. Hadid did not enter.

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The joint winning design, by Antoine Grumbach, described as a garden bridge including a tropical greenhouse

Setting the avant-garde agenda

Deyan Saeed
Architecture Correspondent

A career in deconstruction

ZAHA Hadid is one of the few women architects to have established herself internationally in her own right, rather than under the shadow of a partner. But it is her work, rather than her gender, that has attracted worldwide attention.

Ms Hadid discovered the constructivist drawings of the revolutionary Soviet period when she was a student. They have inspired her very distinctive vision of architecture.

Her designs begin in the form of paintings - striking spatial explorations that initially gave some people the impression that she was concerned only with unbuildable fantasies. But her dynamic compositions translate powerfully into three dimensions as can be seen in the fire station she designed for the Vitra furniture company - now used as an adjunct to the Vitra furniture museum, in south Germany - and a block of flats in Berlin. For Vitra, Hadid produced a floating iceberg-like wall of steel erupting from the ground.

Influenced by the constructivist she may be, but Hadid is an original. A powerful presence, in trademark Issey Miyake, Hadid has been one of the small international group of architects that have set the agenda for the avant-garde over the last decade. Her emergence in the early 1980s as a significant talent seemed confirmed when she won the international competition in

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Born: 1950 in Baghdad
Age: 45
Nationality: Iraqi
Based: London
Education: Went to school at a French convent in Baghdad, then in Europe and North America before taking A levels in England. Read maths at the American University in Beirut
1972: Returned to London and trained at the Architectural Association
1982: Winning entry for The Peak, a Hong Kong leisure complex, seen as breakthrough for "deconstructivist" architecture. Project cancelled. Small projects in



1980s including her first completed work, a restaurant interior in Sapporo
1981: Commissioned to build fire station in Germany. Innovative, but impractical
1984: Won competition for Cardiff Bay Opera House with controversial glass necklace design, beating 268 rivals
January 1995: Unprecedented second run-off. Hadid confirmed as winner, but project rejected by Millennium Commission in December
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try. Its roof and walls are an explosive collection of shards and fragments. In Berlin the most conspicuous characteristic of her design is a glinting black wall of steel erupting from the ground.

Influenced by the constructivist she may be, but Hadid is an original. A powerful presence, in trademark Issey Miyake, Hadid has been one of the small international group of architects that have set the agenda for the avant-garde over the last decade. Her emergence in the early 1980s as a significant talent seemed confirmed when she won the international competition in

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DEAR MR TAXMAN

THE INLAND REVENUE ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT SELF ASSESSMENT

I FEEL LEFT OUT

Dear Taxman I feel neglected, all my friends get tax returns to fill in but you have never sent me one. As I am now 32 years old is there something wrong with me? Ignored, COVENTRY.

TAXMAN SAYS Age has nothing to do with whether you get a tax return or not. We will send you a tax return if you are self-employed, a company director, or someone with more complex tax affairs. Most people don't get a tax return so you're certainly not alone. However, if you receive income that has not been taxed and you haven't been sent a tax return you must tell us. Call your Tax Office and talk to someone there if you are still worried. The telephone number is in the phone book under 'Inland Revenue'.

DO I NEED AN ACCOUNTANT?

Dear Taxman To date, I keep proper records, the new system should make things easier. You may even find time for a more exciting hobby like collecting cheese labels.

Will I now be forced to use an accountant and give up one of my few interests in life? Bored, DYFED.

TAXMAN SAYS Not if you don't wish to. If you already deal with tax affairs yourself there is no reason to change. In fact, if you are organised and

AM I UP-TO-DATE?

Dear Taxman As soon as I buy clothes they immediately go out of style. I spend a fortune on an exotic holiday only to discover it was the place to go last year. I get rid of all my easy listening records, next day they are back in fashion. I am beginning to suspect that I may be just one of those people who is always behind the times. How can I be sure that I am up-to-date with my tax? Concerned, LEBESTER.

TAXMAN SAYS Simple. Have you filled in and sent off all the tax returns that you have received? Have you replied to any letters we have sent you? Have you paid all your tax bills? If the answer is 'yes' to all of these then don't worry, you're up-to-date. And if it's any help, white stilettos are due for a comeback.

NO MORE TAX

Dear Taxman Is Self Assessment just a cunning way of wheedling more tax out of me? Paranoid, BARNES.

TAXMAN SAYS No. Self Assessment is not a new tax and does not affect the amount of tax you pay. It is just a clearer and more straightforward system for working out and paying tax.

How big is it?

Dear Taxman How big is the new Self Assessment tax form? I have a bad back and the doctor says I can't do any heavy lifting. Worried, BRADFORD.

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you are self-employed, there will be four extra pages to fill in.) You will get a full list of the supplementary pages available and if you think any apply to you, you'll have plenty of time to send off for them. Guidance notes to help you fill in your tax return and work out your own tax bill - if you want to - will be sent out with the forms.

Please send me more information about Self Assessment. Please tick a box if you are - Self-employed Employed A Pensioner Seeking work Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____ Address _____ Postcode _____ SA/TG6/2/97/4

PLEASE RETURN COUPON TO: SELF ASSESSMENT PO BOX 555 BRISTOL BS99 5UJ

Grade's £300m bid for United fell foul of huge share price hike

CHANNEL 4's boss, Michael Grade, was behind an audacious attempt to take over Manchester United in the latest example of commercial business interests attempting to exploit the riches in sport coming from satellite television.

Manchester United's share price has followed suit, more than doubling in the past year to £4.50, valuing the club at £280 million. But that rise was too much for VCL.

This summer's lucrative deal between the Premier League and BSkyB pushed the club's price beyond the reach of VCL, which distributes videos such as Thomas the Tank Engine and Mr Bean.

Earlier this year, VCL bought the rights to publish books and videos for Manchester United.

Mr Grade became chairman of VCL early last year, choosing the company as one of the two non-executive appointments he is allowed under his Channel 4 contract.

90 jobs to go at World Service

Andrew Cull
Media Correspondent

NINETY jobs are to be axed at the crisis-torn BBC World Service in a £8.5 million economy drive, it was announced yesterday.

The cuts coincided with a warning from its managing director, Sam Younger, that foreign language services would have to close next year unless the Government makes up a £5 million funding shortfall in November's Budget.

The economies represent 5 per cent of the service's £135.6 million operating budget, provided as grant-in-aid from the Foreign Office.

Mr Younger said: "Recognising the tight situation for funding across the whole public sector, we have done everything we can to cut costs while protecting services for listeners."

Now he hoped the Government would acknowledge what had been achieved and look again at its planning figures for next year's grant-in-aid.

The most vulnerable foreign language services include sub-Saharan Africa, central Europe and Brazil.

The service's funding crisis is separate from the divisive row over director general John Birt's plans to merge its news and English language departments with the BBC's domestic radio and television.

A joint BBC/Foreign Office working party is to report early next month on the impact of the restructuring.

But Mr Younger said that any economies from the merger would have little impact in 1997-98 on the £5 million funding gap.

Mr Younger and senior World Service managers have discussed the grant-in-aid shortfall with Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, and are lobbying MPs.

Yesterday's cuts involve new working methods. In sub-Saharan Africa, French programming will be cut by an hour a day, and a 30-minute daily Portuguese transmission will cease. Schedules for English language transmissions around the world will be streamlined into three separate time zones, instead of the present five.

"We are very, very conservative really. It's very ironic. At first the only rule was that you could do anything you wanted as long as it didn't hurt anybody else. Now there are limits and rules. Otherwise it would not be possible to live here."
Life in Christiania
Cover story

ies to go
a brutal ent
warns rival
RS

Howard 'extremely concerned' as figures show first increase in three years • Rapes and robberies up, burglaries and thefts down

Violent crime soars by 10 per cent

'I wish the public had a keener appreciation of what we believe is actually happening. It is not unusual for the public perception to lag somewhat behind what is actually happening'

- Michael Howard



Alan Travis on twin blow for Tories

Michael Howard said the public failed to appreciate crime figures had been through their largest sustained fall for 40 years

MICHAEL Howard yesterday banished all talk of "turning the tide" against criminals as the annual figures showed the crime rate rising for the first time in three years, including a 10 per cent jump in violent crime.

The confirmation that the three-year decline in the crime rate had been halted instead prompted the Home Secretary to accuse the public of failing to appreciate that the recorded crime figures had

just been through their largest sustained fall for 40 years. The Government's efforts to re-establish its law and order credentials also received a knock with the publication yesterday of the 1996 biennial British Crime Survey, based on interviews with 16,000 adults.

It showed that crime has continued to rise in the past two years, albeit by only 2 per cent. Only 4 per cent of the public believed that the official crime rate had really fallen by 10 per cent in the past three years. Instead the

survey showed that three-quarters believed it had continued to rise substantially. "I wish that the public had a keener appreciation of what we believe is actually happening. It is not unusual for the public perception to lag somewhat behind what is actually happening," said Mr Howard.

The annual figures show there were 5.1 million crimes recorded by the police in the 12 months to June 1996, an increase of 0.4 per cent.

Although violent crime only accounts for 6 per cent of offences, Mr Howard said he

was "extremely concerned" the category had suffered its largest increase for eight years, to 331,000 offences. But the Home Secretary took comfort in continuing minor falls in burglary (1 per cent), theft (2 per cent) and car crime (1 per cent). "My concern is the long-term picture. Both the bulletins published today provide encouraging evidence on the trends in crime.

"I make no bones that the rise in violent crime is a matter of concern. If you look at the fastest growing parts of

the rise in violent crime, particularly domestic violence and sexual crime, then that has something to do with the rise in reporting.

Rapes rose by 14 per cent and robberies by 15 per cent, largely accounted for by an increase in street muggings. The largest rises in crime were in Greater Cambridgeshire, Merseyside, and Sussex. Durham, Cheshire, and Gloucestershire had the largest falls.

The rise in violent crime with a continuing small fall in property offences confirms Home Office research that, as the economy improves and personal disposable income increases, there is a rise in violent attacks, particularly those which are alcohol-related.

The shadow home secretary, Jack Straw, said that in the past 12 months Tory min-

isters had dined out on modest falls in recorded crime yet the British Crime Survey had revealed that crime levels had continued to increase in the past two years.

"The Government has failed to tackle the underlying causes of crime and deal with criminal anti-social behaviour in local neighbourhoods. It is no wonder [Tory MP] David Mallow said Labour is outflanking the Government on law and order," he said.

For the Liberals, Alex Carlisle said the Government had failed to stem rising crime and there were unprecedented levels of violent crime.

Bill Taylor, chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers, agreed that the upward trend was "a cause for concern".

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Survey reveals rise in violence

Alan Travis

THE 1996 British Crime Survey published yesterday says crime rose by 2 per cent between 1993 and 1995 — the period when Michael Howard was having an 8 per cent fall in police figures as the largest for 40 years.

The BCS, carried out every two years and based on interviews with 16,000 adults, estimates that there were 19.1 million crimes last year.

The 2 per cent rise is, however, the smallest increase since its inception in 1981 and the results also mirror the pattern in the police records in the last two years, with both showing small falls in burglary and car crime and a rise in violent crime. The BCS, however, estimates there has been a 17 per cent rise in violent crime as against 10 per cent in the police figures in the last year.

A BCS finding which will also alarm Tory politicians is the discovery that only 4 per cent of the public believe crime has fallen in the past two years. Three quarters feel it has increased. The BCS, regarded by criminologists as

more reliable than police figures, shows a growing amount of crime not being officially reported, with roughly four times as many crimes happening as are recorded by the police. Many crimes go unreported because victims do not feel they are serious enough.

More comforting is the BCS finding that there has been a small decrease in people's fear of crime. The proportion of women who feel unsafe alone on the streets at night has dropped from 54 per cent in 1994 to 47 per cent now.

Amongst other BCS findings are:
 □ More than one in 10 women and one in 20 men said they were worried after dark. A third of the women who stayed in cited fear of crime as the reason.
 □ The largest rise in violent crime has been in domestic attacks in the home, which have increased by 24 per cent since 1981. Acquaintance violence, by someone known to the victim, has doubled since 1981. Street muggings have increased at a slower rate (54 per cent) and stranger violence has shown the smallest increase (12 per cent) over the past 15 years.

More crime

England and Wales

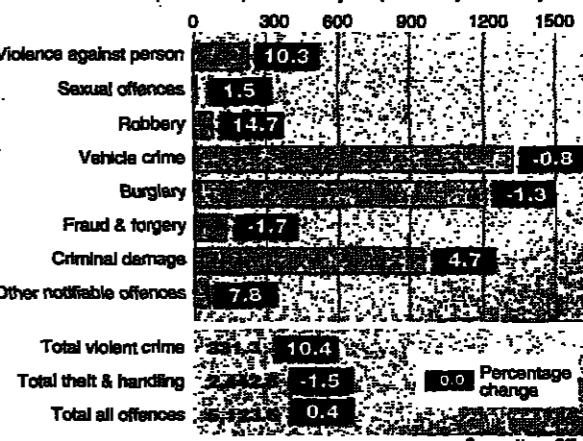
Violent crime

Percentage increase in violence from 1981-1995

Domestic	242
Acquaintance	123
Mugging	54
Stranger	12

Notifiable offences

Number of offences (thousands) recorded by the police July 1995-July 1996



Senior police back gun ban

Alan Travis

SENIOR police officers yesterday rejected gun lobby overtures and unanimously voted to reform Britain's "liberal gun control laws".

The decision came in the face of warnings to the Police Superintendents' Association annual conference that tougher restrictions on gun ownership would just be seen as another power bid by police.

Bill Harriman of the British Association for Shooting and Conservation told the officers that the public's idea of shooters being gun-toting madmen was wrong.

"We are not all camouflage-clad loners," he said. "We are normal men and women who like to do a bit of shooting. Private ownership of firearms is a cornerstone of any democracy," he said.

But the superintendents appealed to the Home Secretary to get tough on gun crime.

The debate means another

significant group in the criminal justice system has backed tighter gun controls as Lord Cullen finalises his report into the Dunblane massacre. The report is to be published on October 14 — after the party conference season.

Superintendent Dai Davies, a Metropolitan police royal protection squad officer, told the Stratford-upon-Avon conference it was necessary to reduce the risk.

"Imitation firearms must be banned now, as should the storage of handguns," he said. "Handguns must never be stored in people's homes."

"In fairness, the Home Secretary does talk tough. He must ensure that his colleagues give him the power and finance to be tough. Recent tragic events should give us the incentive to get it right once and for all."

Earlier, the shadow home secretary, Jack Straw, had pledged that Labour would not bow to pressure from the gun lobby and renewed his commitment to banning civilian ownership of handguns.

Leader comment, page 8; Lord Windlesham, page 9

Cuts a problem on Mersey beat

Peter Hetherington

"THE last 12 months have hit us hard," sighs the young woman constable as she prepared for another round of evening meetings to calm a troubled community.

"I would not have expected anything like this."

Like the rest of Merseyside's fast-depleting police force, PC Karen Austin knows she could be fighting a losing battle against crime, up by six times the national average over the past year.

Her colleague in the Wavertree and Riverside division of Liverpool, PC Lawrence Jeffries, recalled a week of morning shifts. "The amount of armed robberies took me by surprise — every morning, one after the other, with shootings as well."

With a steadily reducing budget for the Merseyside force, the two community liaison officers often give up their free time, working 12 hours shifts.

Along with the council, church and other agencies, they organise activities for children, aged eight to 14, for three nights every week. They have to teach them the difference between right and wrong before it's too late.

With streets selected on a rota basis, they know they are only skimming the problems in a police division of 70,000 people, characterised by unemployment and a range of social ills.

Rising crime — including a 46 per cent increase in armed robberies over the past year — would be hard enough. But it is combined with deep cuts in the police budget. Merseyside is preparing to shed another 150 officers, on top of 200 lost last year.

Chief constable Jim Sharples said resources were being lost at a time when demands have never been greater. "There is a very, very considerable increase in our workload in those very areas which are resource-intensive and require very sophisticated policing."

Increase disappoints police chief

Gang ransacks home in £40,000 raid while couple seek new house

Martin Wainwright

AHUNDRED and ninety-nine of West Yorkshire's daily average of 200 burglaries were dramatically routine this week, but the final break-in had Inspector Steven Hobson's eyes popping.

As if to illustrate the downward slip of crime prevention statistics — with a 1.7 per cent rise in the county, four times the national rate — thieves took everything from a

young couple's home, except a king-size waterbed. Copper radiator pipes gaped from the skirting boards at Bronte Villas in Cross Roads, a quiet hamlet near Haworth. The kitchen has a hole where the Aga used to be, and rubble surrounds the sitting room fireplace.

"The burglars must have been hungry with all that lifting," said Mr Hobson sardonically, listing the comprehensive stock of basic bits of house which Billy and Julie Brown no

longer have. "Every kitchen cupboard was taken, along with the fridge and the freezer, all of them full of food." They also removed the kitchen sink.

When the Browns returned from house-hunting, they found nowhere to sit in the stone-clad home, valued at £250,000. All the furniture had gone in the £40,000 raid, plus most of the bathroom including a bidet and the radiators.

The couple have moved temporarily to a caravan at Morecambe, after Mrs Brown found the wrecked house unbearable.

West Yorkshire's chief constable, Keith Hellawell, expressed disappointment

with the county's rise in recorded crimes, up some 3,000 to 286,000 incidents last year. Assistant chief constable Norman Bettison said the figures should be set in the context of a longer-term fall in incidents.

He added the force had been successful in the last three months in targeting criminals, using intelligence material in a drive against the relatively small number of hardened professionals. These are likely to include the experienced dismantlers who ransacked Bronte Villas in hours, apparently aware the Browns had gone out for the day.

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Johnnie Walker

Agriculture minister airlifted out by helicopter as 5,000 Irish protest at the impact on income of the beef crisis

Farmers besiege Euro BSE meeting



Irish farmers protest outside Killarney's Hotel Europe against Britain's non-compliance with the EU cattle culling order

PHOTOGRAPH: MIKE BROWN

Stephen Bates in Killarney

THOUSANDS of Irish livestock farmers facing financial crisis because of BSE yesterday besieged European agriculture ministers in their hotel at Killarney.

More than 5,000 farmers, frustrated at being kept several hundred yards from the meeting of ministers discussing compensation payments, broke through a thin line of gardai to protest at the front door of the hotel.

Shutters were run down over the windows of the room in which the ministers were meeting and Franz Fischer, the agriculture commissioner, was later airlifted out by helicopter.

Ivan Yates, the embarrassed Irish agriculture minister, who chaired the meeting, was shouted down as he appealed to the farmers to allow guests to leave the hotel, but the largely good-humoured demonstration dispersed after police appeals.

The protest overshadowed the end of the meeting at which the ministers agreed to bring forward compensation for European farmers who have suffered because of the 20 per cent drop in consumer demand for beef in the wake of the BSE crisis.

The British government's refusal to carry out the agreement reached at June's Florence summit to cull up to 140,000 cattle was not discussed, although Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, had a private meeting with Mr Fischer.

Leaving the ministers' meeting, Mr Hogg said: "We have had a very useful discussion about how we can reduce beef production in line with demand."

In a package which is likely to be endorsed by the European Commission at its weekly meeting in Brussels later today, the ministers agreed that 1400 million will be paid to farmers across the EU by the middle of next month, drawn from money that was earmarked for next year's agriculture budget.

The commission today will discuss a plan to label all meat sold in the EU with farm of origin and a guarantee that it is BSE free. A final compensation package will be put to farm ministers in Luxembourg at the end of October.

Mr Yates told a press conference: "Without the actions we have taken, the situation for farmers would be very much worse. It is a problem of consumer confidence and we are trying to restore that."

Outside, farmers were singing, chanting and waving placards demanding action.

For many farmers in Ireland up to half their income comes from the commission. The average size of farmers' herds is only 12 cattle and they have lost about £184 on the value of each animal since the BSE crisis broke in March.

Michael Burkey, general secretary of the Irish Farmers' Association, said the demonstration showed how bitterly let down farmers felt. "We are angry and feel we are being sold down the Swanee."

BSE fears after carcass find at hunt's kennels

Stuart Millar

ADORSET hunt kennels is being investigated after the discovery of a field of rotting animal carcasses, some of which inspectors fear could have been infected with the BSE virus.

Owners of the Ytene Mink Hunt kennels at Toller Porcum, near Dorchester, face prosecution and closure if they are found to have breached health regulations.

Monitors from the League Against Cruel Sports, whose year-long surveillance of the site sparked the investigation, described it as a "scene from hell".

Ron White, regional representative of LACS, spent a year photographing and videoing the kennels, which opened in 1977. He called yesterday for its closure and prosecution of the owner.

"When I first went out there, the wind was blowing towards me, and I could smell it from about 500 yards away," he said.

"It was like a scene from hell, and we believe it posed a serious health risk."

"We observed a whole field covered with lumps of flesh and bone in various stages of decomposition. We saw the front half of a calf surrounded by flies and rats, with maggots coming out where the head should have been."

Mr White also filmed a filthy, run-down wooden shack which was used as a rendering shed to prepare the meat. Outside, offal bins were left open and there was no evidence of banned offal having been dyed as required by the regulations.

Bones and remains dragged away by foxes and other animals were discovered in hedgerows on a public nature trail next to the site.

Hunt kennels come under the Animal By-Products Order, introduced in 1992 to prevent BSE-infected meat reaching humans, because

they have traditionally offered farmers a cheap collection service for injured or dead livestock. The raw flesh is fed to the hounds.

Under the regulations, all plants handling specified bovine material have been monitored by the State Veterinary Service to ensure the removal of all tissue known potentially to harbour BSE infectivity. In September and October last year, inspectors visited 447 knackeries and hunt kennels — separate figures are not available — found almost half were not properly disposing of banned offal, the figure fell to less than 2 per cent by June.

But the Ytene Hunt was not registered as a hunt kennel, and therefore had never been inspected since the regulations came into force.

Dorset trading standards officers entered the site last week and reported the owner for failing to comply with the regulations, failing to keep collection records and not disposing of waste matter in an appropriate manner.

Bill Jaggs, the deputy trading standards officer, said he could not comment on details of the investigation, which could take several weeks. A second inspection yesterday showed that the owners had taken steps to clean up the site, he said.

Water quality inspectors from the Environment Agency were also called in over fears that waste matter could have washed into the River Hooke, which flows into the Frome. The River Frome flows through Dorchester.

A spokesman confirmed that the kennels were the subject of an investigation. He said he was concerned that the lack of collection records may have allowed unscrupulous farmers to offload infected cattle without knowledge of the authorities.

The owner, Rose Whitcombe, could not be reached for comment.



An investigator photographs the remains of cattle at the kennels in a field described as a 'scene from hell'

New Labour's image handlers should hastily acquire some of Macmillan's sangfroid. Instead, they seem hell-bent on Wilson-style confrontation.
Francis Wheen

G2 page 5

“Does it really matter who's behind travel insurance?”

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TIN1

6 WORLD NEWS

Dole must settle for silver in Golden State

US election 96

Even fellow Republicans admit: 'He's going to get slaughtered in California. He's going to get killed. Jonathan Freedland reports from Los Angeles

It is one of the oldest rules in American politics: as California goes, so goes the nation. If the rule holds true in November, then Bob Dole might as well build his retirement home now.

Pete Wilson, roused his Democratic opponent and dozens of Republicans took House seats in that year's anti-Clinton landslide.

When Mr Clinton announced that he wanted every US high school connected to the Internet by the year 2000, he made an extra promise to Californians: they would be on line by the end of 1996.

The president is benefiting from a countrywide economic recovery, but the surge in California is outpacing the rest. The state's economy lagged behind in the early 1980s, battered by post-cold war defence cuts.

concentrated in Silicon Valley. The president has rich friends in California, most of them in Hollywood.

California in 1994, which deals the children of illegals schooling and all but emergency healthcare.

Mr Dole seems to be on the wrong side of every issue that matters. His statements questioning whether nicotine is harmful or addictive did not play well in health-conscious California.

Clinton accuses Whitewater investigator of vendetta

PRESIDENT Clinton claimed to be the victim of a vendetta by the Whitewater independent counsel Kenneth Starr yesterday while a report called Hillary Clinton's legal work in Arkansas a hotly contested issue.

He cited the claim of his former Whitewater partner Susan McDougal, now serving a contempt of court sentence for refusing to give testimony to Mr Starr's investigation.

They wanted her to say something about us [the Clintons] whether it was the truth or not — there's a lot of evidence to support that.

Meanwhile federal regulators issued a report which said that Mrs Clinton had as a lawyer drafted legal documents for the failing Madison Guaranty Savings & Loan which were later used to deceive bank examiners.

partisan to be doing his job. Meanwhile federal regulators issued a report which said that Mrs Clinton had as a lawyer drafted legal documents for the failing Madison Guaranty Savings & Loan which were later used to deceive bank examiners.

Nuclear states put names to test ban treaty

Iran Black in New York

HALLING a "giant step forward", President Bill Clinton yesterday led the world's declared nuclear powers in signing a global treaty outlawing nuclear tests.

Malcolm Rifkind, Britain's Foreign Secretary, followed counterparts from China, Russia and France to the General Assembly podium to sign the treaty, which Mr Clinton said "points onwards a century in which the roles and risks of nuclear weapons can be even further reduced — and ultimately eliminated."

'It will be told that testing happened in the 20th century and never again'

debts of over \$1 billion (\$865 million) to the cash-strapped organisation as long as reforms continued.

armament. I would say to them, do not forsake the benefits of this achievement by ignoring the tremendous progress we have made towards that goal.

He also called for ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Republican-dominated Senate has not yet done so), for the freezing of production of fissile material, and for further reductions in nuclear arsenals.

But the treaty dominated the day. "In the annals of history, it will be told that nuclear testing happened over a period of 40 years in the 20th century and then never again," said Norway's prime minister, Gro Harlem Brundtland.



A young boy leaps from the Royal Palace boat house in Phnom Penh into the Tonle Sap River, which changes direction every rainy season, flowing north to the Tonle Sap lake after being swollen by flood waters. PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID WHITEHEAD

Mayan relics lost to expert looters

Phil Ganson in Chetumal, Mexico

IT NEVER occurred to Roberto Rojas that his hobby of collecting Mayan relics from a nearby archaeological site could get him into trouble.

"I've been doing it since I was seven," he said from his cell in Chetumal. "Anyone who passes by can find them."

But 28-year-old Roberto, who repairs typewriters, had been out of work for six months and was desperate for money. The police picked him up before he could sell the dozen pieces he had in his backpack and then confiscated another 238 pieces from his family home.

Only a few of the 200,000 archaeological sites in Mexico have not been looted by casual collectors like Roberto or by gangs supplying the international black market.

"We just don't know the scale of this clandestine traffic," said Enrique Nalda of the national anthropological institute, the body responsible for protecting the country's pre-Columbian heritage.

"It's profoundly depressing — a kind of rape. Once you remove the piece from its context, you lose the chance to study its meaning."

The trade is fuelled by wealthy foreign collectors, dealers, and auction houses.

to dissuade the collectors". A UNESCO convention banning the international trade in stolen relics has proved ineffectual.

He said grave-robbing — the "second oldest profession" — was inevitable as any attempts to curb it would simply increase profits.

Stricter laws have made it more difficult to trade in large objects such as Mayan stone stelae, or engraved pillars, which were often sawn into pieces before being transported.

Traffickers receive pieces found by peasant farmers but, occasionally, also from well-organised and expensive digs where heavy equipment is used.

Roberto Rojas, who had collected mainly fragments, said: "They want 10,000 pesos [about £200] to let me out. I wish I'd never thought of the idea."

Gambians schooled for the vote

The country's military ruler aims to keep power in tomorrow's presidential election, writes Joseph Winter in Banjul

THE tiny west African state of The Gambia goes to the polls tomorrow to elect a president after 23 months of military rule.

Four candidates are standing but only two are potential winners: the current head of state, Colonel Yahya Jammeh, and Ousainou Darboe, a lawyer and the compromise candidate the various interests opposed to rule by young soldiers.

by the then Lieutenant Jammeh, that while Sir Dawda may have avoided the chaos seen in some neighbouring states, living conditions were as low as ever.

The elections are mobilising the entire population: upwards of 75 per cent of those eligible are expected to vote.

Little has actually changed under military rule. Armed soldiers do not man checkpoints on every street corner.

chalet and the Arc de Triomphe, named after the July 22 coup — and a bronze statue of a soldier cradling a little child.

"He's a ruthless, power-crazy drug dealer," they roar. Scores of people opposed to military rule have been locked up without trial, some for more than two years.

Although Col Jammeh has retired from the army — the new constitution forbids security personnel from standing for office — his sense of democratic fair play remains questionable.

The signs are hopeful, although the two-week campaign has been marked by physical and verbal violence.

But his opponents point to the \$650,000 wasted on Arch 22 — a cross between a Swiss

venture. But tourism, once responsible for 12 per cent of GDP, has not fared well.

The tourism ministry reacted by wooing new customers. Dutch, French and Spanish are now frequently heard on the beaches and arrivals have climbed back to around 60 per cent of pre-coup levels.

Peaceful elections are essential to keep tourism on the rise.

The signs are hopeful, although the two-week campaign has been marked by physical and verbal violence.

But his opponents point to the \$650,000 wasted on Arch 22 — a cross between a Swiss

News in brief

Revisionist fights for visa

David Irving, a rightwing British historian who denies the Nazi Holocaust happened, challenged the Australian government yesterday to overturn a ban on his entry after the prime minister, John Howard, called at the weekend for more free speech and less political correctness.

Mexican killing

Jorge Garcia Vargas, a federal police officer in charge of fighting drug trafficking along the US border with Mexico, was tortured and shot to death, the seventh time this year that a senior police officer in northern Mexico has been killed.

Bomb-proof homes

Bomb shelters will be built in all new houses in Singapore from next year. Air raid shelters have been under construction for years in schools, hospitals and government buildings.

£10m film record

Independence Day, a Hollywood film about invading space aliens, smashed opening weekend box office records in Germany, film industry officials said yesterday.

No fighting pledge

Bangladesh's foreign minister, Abul Hasan Chowdhury, has promised action to keep Bangladesh workers from getting into fights in Malaysia, a senior Malaysian official said yesterday.

Typhoon victims

The most savage typhoon to batter China's Hainan island in a decade left at least 36 people dead and 96 others missing, the official China Daily reported. — AP

Turks pound PKK hideaway

Chris Nuttall in Ankara

TURKEY yesterday continued its military onslaught in the eastern province of Tunceli on a forest where, according to commanders, up to 250 separatist Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) fighters were holed up.

The military operation coincides with a visit to the area by the chief of general staff, General Ismail Hakkı Karadayi. He said: "Operations are continuing in the whole region, not just Tunceli. The 'terrorists' had sought 'a considerable loss' he added. "They will not be able to bear it for long."

Officials said 460 rebels had been killed in the south-east since August 15. But the PKK has defied military reports of its imminent demise in the past and Turkey has been frustrated by the refugees the rebels have found in Syria, Iran and northern Iraq.

The foreign minister, Tansu Ciller, said this week that Turkey was still prepared to impose a security zone inside northern Iraq to combat PKK infiltration.

The 12-year-old conflict in the south-east has given rise to allegations of human rights abuses. An Amnesty International delegation headed by its secretary-general, Pierre Sané, will arrive in Ankara today to discuss with the government "the deteriorating human rights situation".

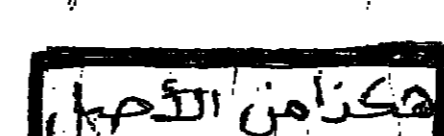
Two police officers were wounded.

Elsewhere, two German tourists were reported to have been kidnapped when militants stopped a bus on its way to the eastern city of Van.

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Call... Troops guard vote count

Lithuanian hit British



Murder of seven-year-old girl by released convict shocks Bavaria and sparks an agonised debate

Call to castrate sex abusers

Ian Traynor in Berlin

GERMANY was plunged into an agonised debate on whether sex offenders should be chemically castrated yesterday after a convicted child abuser had confessed to the murder last week of a seven-year-old girl.

When perpetrators with sexual disorders cannot be helped with therapy, I can imagine that we should think about chemically reducing their sexual drive," she said. "We must examine all possibilities to protect children from sexual abuse."

Belgians arrest 12th suspect

BELGIAN police made their 12th arrest yesterday in the country's child-murder and kidnapping case.

She was described as the companion of one of the leading suspects, Michel Niboul.

Two of the 12 arrested in the case, which involves the kidnapping and sexual abuse of at least six girls, four of whom were found dead, were subsequently released. — AP.

undergo any form of sexual therapy while in jail. He is said to have behaved impeccably during his three years in jail, and all those involved with his case recommended probation.

Troops guard vote count

Lawrence Sheets in Yerevan

LETTI commando troops took up positions around key buildings in the Armenian capital, Yerevan, yesterday as the dispute continued over Sunday's presidential election.

More than 100 soldiers fanned out around the large brick parliament building and security was stepped up at President Levon Ter-Petrosyan's official residence.

A fence separated the soldiers guarding parliament from 25,000 people, waving national flags and shouting anti-presidential slogans in support of Mr Ter-Petrosyan's election rival, Vazgen Manukyan.

Mr Ter-Petrosyan on Monday proclaimed a "brilliant victory" in his quest for a second five-year term over the former prime minister.

Mr Manukyan, but his margin has been shrinking as late votes are counted.

Around a dozen armed men reinforced guards at the presidential palace while soldiers armed with Kalashnikov rifles sealed off the television station.

Parliament houses the Central Election Commission, which has been counting votes. But commission officials left in the mid-afternoon and stopped giving updates on vote totals.

The last incomplete figures showed Mr Ter-Petrosyan with 51.99 per cent of the vote to 41.16 per cent for Mr Manukyan.

The other two candidates failed to win any substantial backing. Mr Ter-Petrosyan needs more than 50 per cent of the vote to avoid a second round run-off.



Supporters of Vazgen Manukyan, former prime minister and leader of the Armenian opposition, raise their hands at a rally held in Yerevan against alleged government vote-rigging and intimidation. Widespread irregularities have been reported. PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN HOLTTHAN

Armenian state radio later quoted the commission as saying that Mr Ter-Petrosyan's share of the vote had fallen to 49 per cent after further counting.

Mr Manukyan, aged 50, has said the government rigged the vote in favour of Mr Ter-

rosyan. The former prime minister led 50,000 protesters through the streets of central Yerevan on Monday.

The Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, which has been coordinating 89 international observers, issued a preliminary report criticising "very serious" irregularities in voting procedures. It detailed incidences of soldiers being or-

dered to vote for Mr Ter-Petrosyan by their commanding officers and said members of the armed forces and interior ministry had been present in many polling stations contrary to the law.

Lithuanian bombs hit British shops

Jon Henley in Helsinki

THREE British-owned optician shops in Lithuania were bombed yesterday, apparently because they had refused to pay protection money.

An interior ministry spokesman said evidence indicated that the attacks were co-ordinated and "almost certainly" came after their British owner rejected an offer of "security".

"This company clearly made someone angry," he said.

The shops, owned by the Nottingham-based company Vision Express, were in the capital Vilnius, the second-largest city Kaunas, and the northern town of Panevezys.

Vision Express, which also runs stores in Russia, Poland and Latvia, said the bomb attacks had taken place almost simultaneously early yesterday morning. No one had been injured and the damage was mainly superficial.

The company's chairman, Dean Butler, denied the stores had been asked to pay protection money. "We have no knowledge why these attacks were carried out," he said. "No demands for payment were received. We believe we have been unfortunate victims caught up in the wave of organised crime which is affecting businesses in the region."

Organised crime has surged in the Baltic states of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia since they broke away from the former Soviet Union in 1991.

Western companies are popular targets. Businesses ranging from newspaper kiosks to luxury car importers routinely pay mafia-style gangs for protection, which many claim is cheaper and more effective than relying on the police and insurance companies.

"Everyone pays," said Rita Dapkus, a Lithuanian-American who runs two successful restaurants in Vilnius. "It's a pain, but you're safe if you pay and you're not if you don't."

Those who refuse to pay can expect a swift and violent response. More than 60 cars, homes and businesses were bombed, killing five people and injuring 12 others, in Lithuania last year, according to the interior ministry. In Estonia, 11 people died in 81 bomb attacks.

Police say the number of reported extortion attempts is declining as gangs move on to drug trafficking or prostitution.

But explosives are still very easy to obtain in all three states. "The Soviet army left a lot of material behind when it pulled out," said a Vilnius police spokesman. "Companies should certainly not dismiss these threats."

Final approval likely for 'unfair' Bosnian poll

Julian Borger in Sarajevo

THE CHIEF international monitor overseeing the Bosnian elections gave them his half-hearted blessing yesterday.

Ed van Thijn, a former Dutch interior minister who co-ordinated monitoring for the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), said he could not use "free" or "fair" to describe the elections.

He said he was "not competent" to judge voting figures which suggest an impossibly high turnout, but added that his supervisors had not witnessed fraud "of sufficient magnitude to affect the overall outcome of the elections".

Preliminary results give huge majorities to the Muslim, Serb and Croat nationalist parties in the three ethnically-separate contests for the presidency.

The Muslim leader, Alija Izetbegovic, gained most votes overall, and is due to address the UN General Assembly today.

The OSCE has become an American juggernaut, and I will tell you exactly what it will do. It will certify the elections," said a European diplomat.

In an apparent step towards client for the OSCE to approve the elections, a necessary step before a new Bosnian government can be formed, sanctions can be lifted on Yugoslavia, and US-led peace-keeping troops can begin to withdraw.

The OSCE has become an American juggernaut, and I will tell you exactly what it will do. It will certify the elections," said a European diplomat.

The poll was the most fraudulent of the 11 elections he had monitored

ensuring that outcome, the right to certify the elections was taken away last week from the OSCE chairman, Flavio Cotti (who the Swiss foreign minister who has been critical about the handling of the elections), and handed to Robert Frowick, the US diplomat heading the OSCE mission in Sarajevo who has been the principal apologist for the flawed poll. He is expected to announce certification next week.

turnout among non-refugee voters of well over 100 per cent. International Crisis Group analysts believe the turnout, according to OSCE figures, could be as high as 111 per cent. UN officials say Mr Frowick has since been trying to persuade the UN Secretary-General to alter its statistics to produce a more plausible result.

The main controversy is about the estimate of the electorate. The original figure calculated separately by OSCE and UN experts was 2.9 million, but on the basis of this figure, and assuming a real turnout of 80 per cent, there were 600,000 more votes cast than possible.

The turnout among non-refugee voters can only be brought below 100 per cent if the electorate is radically revised upwards. Mr Frowick ordered such a revision over the weekend, telling his staff to use the figure 3.2 million.

That presumes the electorate grew by 200,000 between 1990 and 1996, despite an estimated 250,000 war casualties and the scattering of 3 million refugees around the world.

"The word just went round this was the number we should all use from now on," said an OSCE employee. Another senior official said the poll was the most fraudulent of the 11 elections he had monitored in his career.

Mr van Thijn said ballot-stuffing may have been "possible" as there were eight times more polling stations than OSCE teams.

Russia and US agree rules for anti-missile defences

Martin Walker in Washington

RUSSIAN and American negotiators have agreed new rules for deploying short-range anti-missile defences, while insisting that they are abiding by the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty.

At the United Nations in New York, the US secretary of state, Warren Christopher, and the Russian foreign minister, Yevgeny Primakov, initialled an agreement which seeks to prevent strategic defences like President Reagan's vaunted "Star Wars" system but allows "theatre" systems like the Patriot of Gulf war fame.

Next month talks will start on a second phase of modifying the ABM treaty to allow small-scale defence systems which could protect Russia and the US from individual ballistic missiles fired by rogue states.

Russia and the US remain firmly agreed that nobody should be allowed a huge anti-missile system which could nullify the nuclear deterrent by shooting down a full-scale attack. But missile defences short of that are now being permitted.

The White House has been pressing for the agreement, because the Republican Congress and its presidential candidate Bob Dole are demanding the urgent installation of defences against small-scale missile attacks by a rogue state.

World news in brief

Iran 'will not seek to kill Rushdie'

IRAN has reiterated that its death edict against the British author Salman Rushdie is irrevocable, but added it will not send anyone to kill him.

Juppé to call confidence vote

THE French prime minister, Alain Juppé, seeking to unite a fractious centre-right coalition, will seek a vote of confidence in his economic policy when parliament reconvenes next week.

Eastwood and Locke settle

THE actor Clint Eastwood and his ex-lover Sondra Locke settled their court battle yesterday and a judge interrupted jurors in their third day of deliberations to tell them they could go home.

Seoul to review line on North

THE South Korean president, Kim Young-sam, is considering changing policy towards North Korea after a Northern submarine dropped heavily armed agents on a Southern beach, Seoul media said yesterday.

Dalai Lama visit angers China

THE Chinese foreign ministry said yesterday that Australia was interfering in the country's internal affairs by hosting Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, and that the visit would affect ties.

Daredevil's skyscraper walk

AS thousands held their breath nearly 400 feet below, Jay Cochran, a Canadian, eased his way along a tightrope connecting two skyscrapers in Shanghai yesterday.

Tunnel undermines Arafat

ISRAELI asserted its claim to the whole of Jerusalem yesterday by extending an archaeological tunnel which runs the length of the Al Aqsa mosque, the third holiest site in Islam.

Nurses reject short white skirts

Nurses in dozens of public hospitals and clinics in New Delhi struck for two hours yesterday in support of demands for a new dress code. They object to white uniforms — the colour of widowhood in India — and knee-length dresses. — AP, New Delhi

"I thought Mel Brooks was one of the most powerful men on earth and knew what he was doing. He was chief writer on Sid Caesar's Show of Shows, for God's sake!"
Gene Wilder

Claiming the Union Jack

Mr Ashdown has a cure for Tory Europhobia

A PARTY leader must always speak to multiple audiences in an annual conference speech and in an election year all the more so.

As usual, those in the hall simply wanted to be uplifted by an inspirational message, to remind them who they were and why they were there.

Yet a party in good heart does not always win the election, as the Liberal Democrats know better than most.

It was Mr Ashdown's good fortune that he was presented yesterday with a chance to make that twin appeal at a time when it actually matters.

tion, but there is a government crisis taking place this week, which might possibly end in a premature implosion of the Major Cabinet.

Cue Mr Ashdown. The Liberal Democrat leader has developed into a good conference performer and although his speech was over-long, he made a bold effort to show that patriotism and tabloid nationalism do not have to be synonymous.

Tough on the myths about crime

Michael Howard's prisons policy has made the crisis worse

JUSTICE still lives. Even con artists are eventually caught. Even more satisfying is the thought that he has known he was going to be caught for five months.

Just a year ago the Home Secretary told us "a real turning point in the fight against crime" had been reached.

last century but would have taken years to wipe away by the reductions Mr Howard was trumpeting.

Of course, all crime statistics need to be treated with caution. The true figure is not yesterday's five million for recorded crime but a figure almost four times higher - 19 million - as the latest British Crime Survey, also published yesterday, confirms.

Seeking Third Party assurance

The SNP is riding high: but where does it stand on devolution?

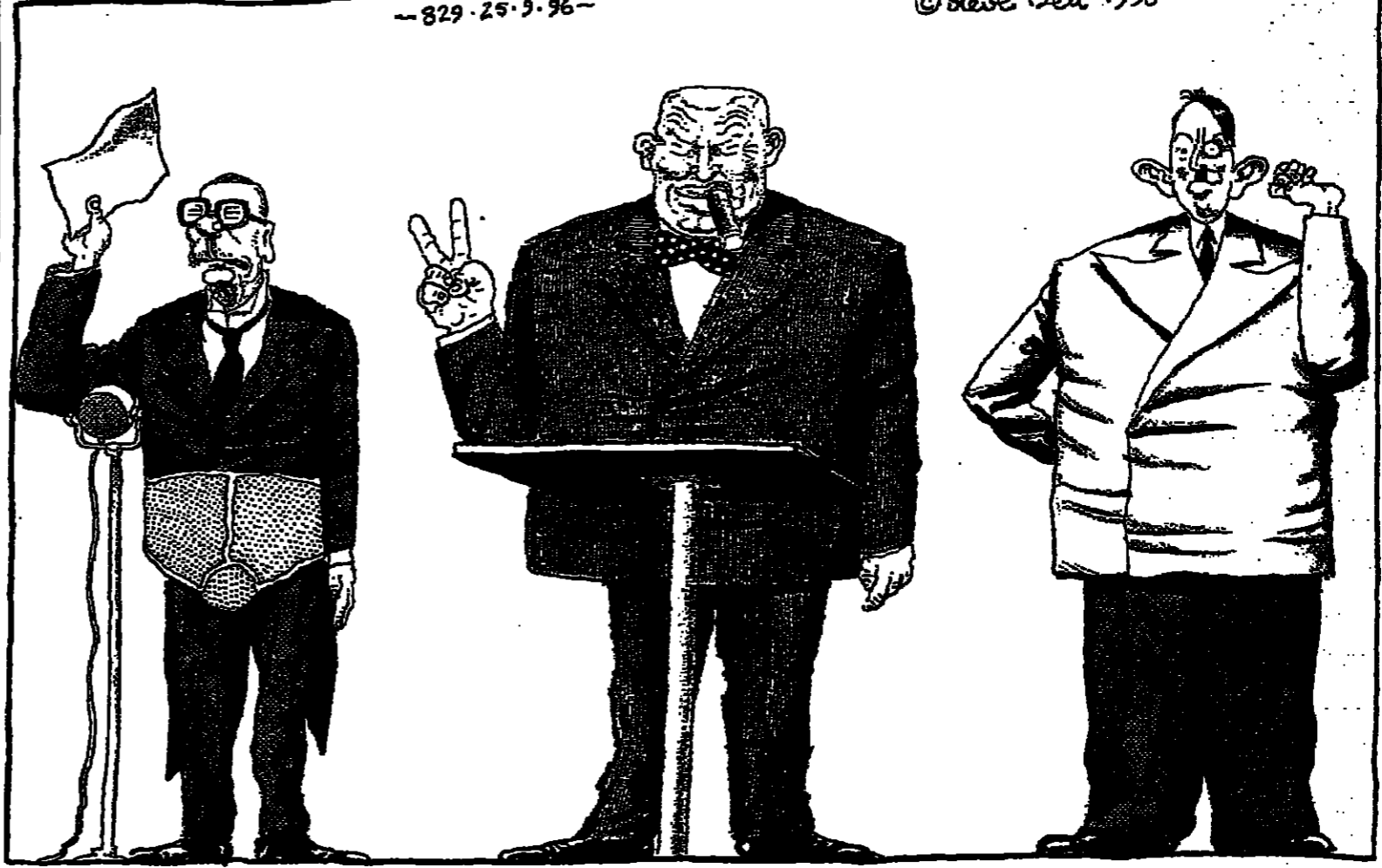
THE week's most important party conference may not be the one in Brighton but the one starting today in Inverness.

Unlike the Liberal Democrats, the Scottish National Party are on the crest of a wave in the polls. Big electoral gains - and the possibility of a key role in a hung parliament - seem a more realistic prospect for Alex Salmond than Paddy Ashdown's right now.

This could be wishful thinking just as long as Labour continues to poll as well as it does. But there can be little doubt that the trend of Scottish opinion is moving the SNP's way again.

say that the SNP is their second-choice party (only one in four said that 20 years ago).

Mr Salmond says he sees the next election as "an all-or-something campaign". We know what "all" means to a Scottish Nationalist - independence.



Letters to the Editor

Life, the universe and everything

Turbines blow hot and cold

RICHARD DAWKINS says that in the uniting there is "nothing but blind pitiless indifference" - but how could an inanimate universe express that or any other attitude?

human beings, and its outstanding mysteries will be "explained away" by some future neuroscience.

ample, but I for one find the thought of immortality at least equally daunting.

WARD knows that there is not yet a scientific answer to everything and so he uses his faith to support the meaning behind life.

THE wind industry is the author of its own misfortune, and the British Wind Energy Association should not blame this organisation for the fact that 80 per cent of planning applications for wind-power stations are rejected.

My own reaction to a Godless universe is one of immense relief. My morality, like most people's, is neither religious nor scientific but (far better than worse) human.

WE ATHEISTS are used to our view being castigated for its bleakness, but we still find it puzzling.

THE core of Ward's case against Dawkins and Atkins, according to Henry Porter, is whether "intricate patterns and substructures of the natural world imply a design".

SINCE the meaning of life cannot be understood except in relation to what life is not, and since science can tell us nothing about what cannot be known, and religion can only guess it, the Great Oxford Debate will not go far.

ARE Sir Bernard Ingham and Robert Woodcock proud of their stance on wind power? These blundering Luddites fail to grasp the importance of the industry they are damaging.

Chains of abuse

JULIE Binder's argument for the law to be changed regarding stalkers in the light of the recent acquittal of Dennis Chambers is a sound one.

Organic farming takes root

THE UK has the lowest percentage of organic farmland in the EU and is being obstructed by the relatively small grants offered by the Government to farmers to switch (Prince hits at farming's 'unnatural methods', September 20).

Cheers

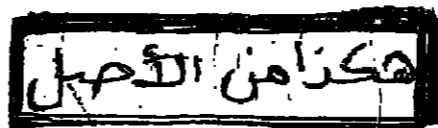
HERBERT MORRISON was accused of many things, but never until now of being an alcoholic.

A Country Diary

SOUTH DEVON: Thoresau always saw the south-west as the direction of adventure and freedom.

Nearly three in five Labour voters now

grossly polluted rivers in its southern reaches - the banks were edged with spectacular and beautiful drifts of Indian balsam, a garden escape that also found its wild British foothold in the south-west.



Diary
Matthew Norman

GLANCING at Faces of Labour, The Inside Story, by the Observer's Andy McSmith (out just in time for next week's conference), my eye is caught by a tribute to the author on the back cover. "One of the most biased, ill-informed, malicious and unpleasant journalists in Westminster," says Mandy Mandelson. Heaven knows, such violent feeling is out of character... and so, wondering what could have caused it, we turn to the penultimate chapter, The Myth of Mandy Mandelson. In it, Mr McSmith, a former Labour press officer, relates that Mandy sent publishers an original outline for The Blair Revolution, his riveting book, which contained material so incendiary that it had to be removed. Much concern, trade unions, coalition government and constitutional reform, but we begin today with savage criticism of John Smith (who loathed poor Mandy) and dump him into the darkness for his "obstinacy in sticking to an electoral doomed Shadow Budget despite Neil Kinnock's better judgement". In an odd oversight, there is no rebuke at all for those who sanctimonised the calamitous rally in Sheffield.

WHAT Elizabeth Smith would make of Mandy's harsh words is uncertain, but her tolerance for respect for her husband's memory is running low. So furious was Lady Smith about the U-turn on Scottish devolution — one of John Smith's passions — that only serious schmoozing from both Donald Dewar and George Robertson stopped her going public.

AT the Guardian-sponsored Lib Dem Conference debate yesterday, colleagues were approached by Jane Ashdown. "Oh, I just have to tell you that we can't have the Guardian at home any more," lamented Mrs Pants, "for fear of Paddy having a heart attack. He's thrown it across the kitchen a couple of times in a fit of rage, so we can't have it anywhere near the house."

THE reason for this, it seems, is a perceived lack of Lib Dem coverage, so let us build bridges today by concluding with news of the battle to succeed Pants. The moment the Economist, although citing Ming Campbell as the likeliest Lib Dem leader, described Charles Kennedy as "a young and telegenic alternative" (and he is telegenic, that is, in comparison with the King of Tonga), the Campbell mob let it be known all over Brighton that the young Charles was taught by a certain Roddy Wright, former Bishop of Argyll and the Isles. "He was briefly my moral tutor," says Charles, of a time long before he appointed Cyril Smith as his fitness instructor.

IN a classic Fleet Street skirmish, the Daily Mail and Daily Express have fought over Terry Major-Ball. "It's been very uncomfortable, because there are very nice people on both sides," says Terry. "But I gave my word, and my word is my bond." And so Terry is sticking to a verbal agreement to write a column for the Mail at £250 a column, despite an Express counter-offer of £400. Since we last spoke, meanwhile, his daughter Fiona has been married, while Terry has faced a new domestic crisis. "It's the ironing board," he explains. "It's not got the width to take a full trouser, you see, but Shirley is resisting my efforts to replace it." And why is this? "Sentimental value. It was our wedding present from Young John, you see. Mind you, it's a very nice ironing board, and it's done sterling service — we've had it for several times — but I feel it's time for a change."

MEANWHILE, in the fortnightly Shalom comes news of Terry's extended family — his mishkochim, to use the Yiddish. Norma Major's father Norman Wagstaff was Jewish, it reports, and Norma had an Aunt Golda, an Uncle Solly and "a Grandma Bessie whose fried fish she remembers well". This is uncanny: the Diary has a Grandma Bessie whose fried fish it remembers well, too. Would Norma by any chance be interested in forming a club?



The blind alley of a penal policy of populism

Commentary David Windlesham

CRIMINAL statistics are a notorious maze which politicians enter at their peril. What at one moment seems to be a promising avenue leading towards political advantage can soon turn out to be a blind alley. When the weather worsens it is hard to find an exit.

Michael Howard is currently experiencing this tribulation after the publication yesterday of figures showing a small increase (0.4 per cent) in recorded crime in England and Wales, and a far larger one of 10 per cent in offences of violence against the person. Worse still, within the violent-crime category the most serious and life-threatening offences rose by 15 per cent in the 12 months to the end of June.

Ministers who deploy criminal statistics to demonstrate the success of their policies have usually been quicker to point out the necessary qualifications when the figures go up than when they go down, as has been the general pattern over the last three years. Home Office figures include only offences reported to and recorded by the police. They take no account of the large number of offences which for a variety of reasons are not recorded. Within the overall statistics, there will be increases for some categories of crime and decreases for others. Regular sample surveys are a better guide to the actual scale of offending experienced by victims, but there again fluctuations need to be treated with caution.

Yesterday's statement is fortuitous, for shortly the Home Secretary will once again be addressing the Conservative Party Conference. In the past he has relied on greater severity in sentencing as his main response to levels of offending which are well beyond the tolerance of the electorate. At Blackpool last year, with little or no prior consultation within or outside government, Michael Howard announced proposals to remove from the judges the

power to sentence certain offenders according to the circumstances of the crime — those offenders who were convicted for the second or third time of serious violent or sex offences, trafficking in Class A drugs, or burglary of a dwelling.

A Bill is forecast for the final session of this Parliament. It will prescribe lengthy mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment, from which judges may depart only if there are genuinely exceptional circumstances. Although the model, and in some places the actual language, has been borrowed from the United States, the policy of three strikes and you're out, is a life sentence for two previous convictions for serious felonies or drug offences, has been adapted to two strikes requiring an automatic life sentence to be imposed on all offenders over the age of 18 who are convicted for the

second time of a serious violent or sex offence. Yet in America, despite mandatory sentencing in terms of imprisonment of a length hitherto unknown in this country, and a prison population more than four times higher per capita than ours, violent crime is far more common. It is the prevalence of violence and the recourse to physical force and access to firearms that distinguishes crime in America

from any other developed nation state. As anyone with first-hand experience of the criminal justice system knows, a high proportion of crimes of violence are committed on impulse often under the influence of drugs or alcohol. This does not make them any more excusable, nor reduce the gravity of the harm they have done to their victims. But it does mean that harsh sentences intended to deter can have only a limited effect. The

importance of pre-release programmes and supervision after release from prison was brought out by the recent Probation Service study of re-offending by those who were prematurely released after misunderstandings about how the length of their sentences should be calculated.

The rise in the number of recorded crimes of violence should be seen as more than a temporary political embarrassment by ministers and their supporters in Parliament who will soon be deciding whether to sanction the most profound changes in sentencing policy in modern times. It is a warning sign that policies rooted in popular appeal may not achieve the intended effect of reducing the appalling consequences of violent crime.

Lord Windlesham is Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford, and a former chairman of the Parole Board. Volume III of his work on Responses To Crime will be published on October 17 (Oxford University Press, £40). Catherine Bennett is away

The children we are sending to prison



Isabel Hilton

THE party of freedom and choice continues to pursue its passion for standardisation and testing in education: in the past few weeks the Secretary of State for Education, Gillian Shephard, has announced two new projects — the testing of five-year-olds on entry to school and the homogenisation of teacher-training courses.

There is an argument for both, if intelligently applied, but on the evidence so far each is likely to work to the disadvantage of Britain's biggest educational minority — dyslexic children. About 10 per cent of children suffer some degree of dyslexia, 2 per cent severely. These are not stupid children, though are often misperceived as such.

Dyslexia is inconvenient to schools: those who suffer from it require special rules and extra attention. They are not always easy to recognise and by the time their problems are picked up they have often become truculent or withdrawn. But this is not a choice between giving money to a privileged minority or concentrating funds on the more responsive majority. Ignored dyslexia costs individuals their main chance in life, and the social and financial costs of that are charges we all pay, sooner or later. The financial cost of attending to dyslexia is a fraction of the true cost of neglecting it.

Dyslexia is no respecter of race or class. The only difference between the middle-class and the deprived dyslexic child is that one is more likely to receive help and the other, as research is beginning to show, is likely to end up in jail. One US study reports that 52 per cent of a sample of recent prisoners was found to be dyslexic, and recent work at one inner-London drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre found 91 per cent of dyslexics among the residents. Many British experts find these figures suspiciously high — but would welcome further research, since none contests that dyslexics are heavily over-represented in British, and US, jails.

Dyslexia is not a moral failing. Its sufferers carry no criminal gene. Their difficulty is that the rest of the world operates with a set of codes that they find hard to perceive and understand. Since so much depends on these codes and their arrangements — reading, writing, arithmetic — severe dyslexics risk being perpetually barred from learning. When the class begins to

read, the dyslexic child just doesn't get it. If the teacher has not been trained to recognise the condition, the child may be perceived as lazy, uncooperative or stupid — at best a late developer. Training in recognition of dyslexia has not been part of traditional teacher training. The child grows miserable and frustrated. He may disguise his bewilderment for a time by counterfeiting reading. He will look at the pictures and guess at the words. He will memorise the text as others read aloud and try to reproduce it at the pressures of the conclusion that he is as stupid as his teacher seems to think. By the time he is eight or nine, he may be thought slow. He has lost confidence and withdraws from an experience of education that has brought only frustration.

If he never learns to read properly, there is no way forward. It's hardly surprising that a proportion of such children grow up anti-social. This, of course, could all be avoided. Dyslexia cannot be "cured" — but the consequences can be minimised. Children can be taught to read and write, the catastrophic collapse of self-esteem can be avoided, and they can be taught how to cope. Dyslexia is now officially recognised and there is a statutory obligation on schools to provide for it, but training and testing are under-resourced and the system can be avoided, and only provides for the most severe cases. The charities founded by middle-class campaigners — the British Dyslexia Association and the Dyslexia Institute — develop tests and teaching methods, but complain that the national curriculum means that there is no space in the timetable to withdraw children from class for the extra help they need.

And as schools in both the public and private sectors are drawn into a philosophy of competition, league tables and "efficient use of resources", they begin to screen out these children who are heavy on resources and unlikely to produce high exam performance.

IF MRS SHEPHARD'S tests for five-year-olds are to be a constructive exercise, and not just another stick with which to beat schools, perhaps she would care to consider a proposal from the Dyslexia Association: that her tests be teamed with an assessment for dyslexia. The association has developed screening programmes that can predict which children are likely to be dyslexic. Let Mrs Shephard incorporate those in her tests and then devote to those children the resources they need. They will repay the attention, because without literacy they may never hold down jobs. It costs £25,000 to keep a man in prison for a year. Why not spend some of it giving the child a chance?



You can swear by it

We may well be offended, but increasing exposure means that one of our strongest swear words is losing its bite. But we need taboos, argues John Ayto

WHEN Kenneth Tynan said "fuck" on the BBC in the late 1960s, spines stiffened on three-piece suits the length and breadth of the country. It was as if the Archbishop of Canterbury had dropped his drawers during the Coronation. But last week, when Jane Horrocks said "fucking" on a take-off of a children's television programme, it scarcely raised a molehill on the obscenity seismograph.

Tomorrow the theatrical world will further erode the world's ability to shock. A new play by Mark Ravenhill will open at the Royal Court in London: its most notable aspect, upon which publicists have been quick to capitalise, is its title: Shopping And Fucking. The expression dates back to the early eighties, when it was applied — usually abbreviated to "S n F" — to a type of pulp fiction featuring rich, glamorous, high-spending, highly sexed women.

Are the billboards of Britain ready for the f-word? In Newbury the play will be advertised as Shopping And. In most venues, the title comes out as Shopping And F***ing. The Royal Court itself has opted, Freudianly, for Shopping and FEEffin'

which it appears is said to be incensed at the covering-up of a word deemed worthy of inclusion in the Oxford English Dictionary. So where do we stand with fuck nowadays? Where can you say it, and write it, and where can't you? And what is going to happen to it in the future?

The term's stereotypical role in the past was as a vulgarism, characteristic of the speech of the lower orders. Its emergence on to a

wider stage (signposted by its first appearance in a general English dictionary, the Penguin English Dictionary, in the early 1960s) has been sanctioned, it seems, on the understanding that it is in the hands of those sophisticated enough to cope with it.

The word appeared in art films long before it made it into the commercial cinema (in 1993, the Guardian reported that "whenever Jeff Bridges said 'fuck' it was changed to 'rig', a starry euphemism used by Hollywood studios when they prepare a film for broadcast on television"). It is common coinage in Booker prize-winning novels, conspicuously absent in popular romance.

It is a well-observed phenomenon, but tabloid newspapers which happily print the most salacious details of

dance but yet with a measure of gravitas to preserve, as mentioned it in 82 articles over that period. But the Guardian has been happy to let it all hang out, with no fewer than 209 fucks.

Clearly, if you view your audience as centre-to-left, intelligent, you reckon they can take it. Indeed, you may think they jolly well ought to take it in an article for the Guardian Weekly in January, 1995, the author Jean Aitchison, Rupert Murdoch Professor of Language and Communication at Oxford, specifically wrote "f***". She requested that she be consulted about any changes, and so was surprised on seeing the paper to find one amendment: the copy editor had changed "f***" to "fuck". It seems that the only use the Guardian has for the f-word

left in our repertoire of expletives. But here, too, gradual dissociation from their original meanings is breaking down the taboo on them. *Shit* is casually spat out by people who 30 years ago might well have found themselves physically incapable of saying it in public. *Fuck* has further to go than *shit*, but it is going in the same direction. As Jean Aitchison said in this year's Reith Lectures: "F-words (sexual swearing) and s-words (excrement swearing) no longer horrify so many people. Their meaning has weakened as the original connection with sex and excrement fades."

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Anything

Country Diary

10 OBITUARIES

Murtaza Bhutto

In the name of the father

MURTAZA Bhutto, who has been murdered in Karachi, aged 42, was a proud and embittered man. He had much cause for bitterness. His life was transformed when the military dictator General Zia ul-Haq hanged his father, Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, in April 1979. At the time, Murtaza and his brother, Shah Nawaz, were in London. Speaking at a public meeting in Hyde Park, he pledged to revenge his father's death. Soon afterwards, he disappeared from view.



Murtaza Bhutto was impatient. The quickest way to remove General Zia, he thought, was to bump him off

It later emerged that he had decided to set up an armed struggle organisation, al-Zulfikar (the Sword), which, through well-publicised and selective acts of terror, would bring down the Zia dictatorship. Murtaza flitted easily from Tripoli to Damascus and finally set up his base of operations in Kabul, which had reasons of its own for destabilising General Zia.

The hijacking of a Pakistan International Airlines plane in 1981 was al-Zulfikar's most dramatic act and it resulted in the release of several dozen political prisoners. However, it also enabled Zia to temporarily crush the Movement for Restoration of Democracy in Pakistan, an umbrella organisation under the leadership of Murtaza's sister, Benazir, who, together with her mother, Nusrat, had remained in Pakistan and courageously fought the dictatorship at home.

Benazir was convinced that only a mass movement would shift Zia. Murtaza was impatient. He thought the quickest way to remove the general was to bump him off. Al-Zulfikar did on one occasion fire a Stinger missile at Zia's plane as it took off from Islamabad airport and came close to scoring a hit. But the failure proved costly and led to further repression in Pakistan.

The true story of al-Zulfikar and Murtaza Bhutto has yet to be told and there are rumours circulating that a remarkable insider's account of the organisation and its



Dissenting voice... Murtaza Bhutto at a demonstration in London in 1978, calling for the release of his father

leader has been written by Raja Anwar. If this is the case we have a treat in store. Anwar, who now lives in Frankfurt, was one of the most astute strategists close to Bhutto. His refusal to accept the divine right of Murtaza to succeed his father led to a death sentence being passed on him by Bhutto's Anwar was saved by the Afghans: will he now tell the tale?

After Zia's assassination and the restoration of democracy, Benazir Bhutto came to power. Murtaza, still in exile, felt cheated. In the patriarchal milieu of Sindh land-lordism, the son is the heir. He returned to face trial for the hijacking and was, surprisingly, acquitted. His brother, Shah Nawaz, had been poisoned in 1985 in strange circumstances in the south of France.

Murtaza was now the sole male descendant of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto. He moved into the family homes in Karachi and Larkana. He had hoped that his mother might be able to get him a senior government position. It was said at the time that he wanted to be chief minister of Sindh. His sister, sensibly, refused.

Murtaza denounced her for betraying their father's legacy and formed a rival faction, which consisted largely of old cronies and new hangers-on. The only function of the new organisation was to harass his sister and his brother-in-law, Asif Zardari, whom he hated and denounced as "a looter and swindler" of the national wealth.

Last week, as he was returning home from a political meeting, the police had established a checkpoint a few hundred metres from 70 Clifton, the Bhutto family residence. They ordered him to stop. He did. They ordered him and his colleagues to get out of the car. As they did, the police opened fire. Six bullets perforated Murtaza's body. He fell on to the dusty road, bleeding from the wounds. There was a hospital two minutes away, but the police did not take him there. When they finally released it was too late. The doctors insisted that they could have saved him if he had been brought to them immediately.

Anne Kristen

Player for Scotland

ANNE Kristen, who has died from cancer aged 59, was an actress familiar to television viewers for more than 20 years, principally in roles of strong character and often in dramas from her native Scotland. She was widely recognised as the crusty receptionist, Norma Sullivan, in BBC's *Casualty*, but her career stretched back to her Glasgow school days.



Anne Kristen in Time of Strife

Her father, Reginald Biles, was literary editor, and later deputy editor, of the Glasgow Herald and she grew up in an environment where books were important. She went on to the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow and as a medalist there, where she studied under Colin Chandler, she earned the right to become a member of the Glasgow Citizens' Theatre Company. She developed and expanded her repertoire through such plays as Arnold Wesker's *Roots* and Brecht's *The Good Woman of Setchuan*.

As Tom Fleming said in a moving funeral service tribute: "She dealt in the essence of our elusive art form — humanity. She strove simply for the understanding of one human being by another". Anne Kristen met and married the actor Iain Cuthbertson while she was at the Citizens' but they were later divorced. She had lived latterly at Ancrum in the Borders and her final television appearance, in BBC's Screen One drama series, was shown this month.

Brian Wilson

Letters

Jeanette Manjengwa writes from Harare, Zimbabwe: Douglas Hyde (obituary, September 21) having a vision of a better world and his life was a struggle for justice for people throughout the world. His struggle was fuelled with tremendous love for humanity. I, like so many others from different parts of the world and of various generations, had the privilege of being inspired and encouraged by Douglas. His belief in the necessity of addressing political systems and eradicating root causes of injustice and poverty — rather than patching things up with isolated good deeds — together with his scrupulous integrity and adherence to the truth, inspired me 20 years ago, changing my life, giving it new meaning and direction.

James Ross Moore writes: When American singing dancer Louise Browne (obituary September 6) came to Britain in 1927 to play Kitty Brown in *The Girl-Friend*, her fame had partially preceded her. Publicity accorded her a world's record "for pirouette dancing, of over 80 consecutive spins". Although after retirement she went on to perform great service to classical ballet, Browne's most memorable moment on a British musical stage came in the musical *Milk and Honey* (1934). She and (Sir) John Mills performed Vivian Ellis's and Desmond Carter's *On a Sea-Sea* — probably Ellis's best-loved song. Their duet, preserved on record, remains a joy.

Paul Draper

Dancing through the dark

MET Paul Draper, the tap-dancer who has died aged 86, in 1933 when we were asked to work together at the new Radio City Music Hall in New York. From then on I told everyone about him; he did the same about me and we kept each other working.



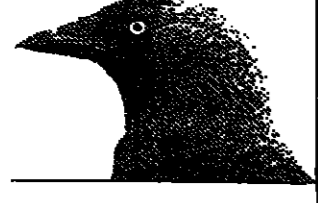
Paul Draper, dancer, born 1909; died September 20, 1996

In 1939, I returned to the United States from England, and Draper got me a job with him at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles. During that engagement we conceived the idea of trying a joint recital in Santa Barbara. The MCA agent who saw it told us to forget it, the public wouldn't take a tap-dancer and a mouth-organist for a full evening. In fact, Columbia Artists picked us up and, within two years, we were the highest-paid concert attraction on the circuit.

Paul Draper tap-balleted to Brahms, Handel and Paradies; I played Bach, Albeniz, Debussy and Gershwin. We joined only at the end of each half. For the second half, we asked the audience to call out song titles; I played them and Draper ad-libbed a dance to what I played. His dancing was unique, completely original. It was his own art form and has never been duplicated.

You if they had your Communist Party card. We found, however, that signed contracts were being cancelled. A lady in Greenwich, Connecticut, called Hester McCullough, wrote to the papers that we shouldn't, as pro-Communists, be allowed to perform our scheduled concert in Greenwich. We sued for libel, the case ended in a hung jury. The jury foreman wrote me a letter saying that the case should never have come to court. Also, that the evidence changed no juror's mind. It began as eight to four against us and it ended the same way.

Jackdaw



Homo barbie

PALEOANTHROPOLOGY Division, Smithsonian Institution. Dear Sir: Thank you for your latest submission to the institute, labelled "111-D, layer seven, next to the clothes-line post. Hominid skull." We have given this specimen a careful and detailed examination, and regret to inform you that we disagree with your theory that it represents "conclusive proof of the presence of Early Man in Charleston County two million years ago."

has small children, believes to be the Mithu Barbie. We are loathe to contradict with your findings. However, we do feel that there are a number of physical attributes of the specimen which might have tipped you off to its modern origin:

1. The material is molded plastic. Ancient hominid remains are typically fossilized bone. 2. The cranial capacity of the specimen is approximately nine cubic centimeters, well below the threshold of even the earliest identified proto-hominids. 3. The dentition pattern evident on the "skull" is more consistent with the common domesticated dog than it is with the "ravenous man-eating Pliocene clams" you speculate roamed the wetlands during that time. Without going into too much detail, let us say that: a) the specimen looks like the head of a Barbie doll that a dog has chewed on; b) clams don't have teeth. To the best of our knowledge, no Barbie dolls were produced prior to 1956AD, and carbon dating is likely to pro-

duce wildly inaccurate results. Sadly, we must also deny your request that we approach the National Science Foundation's Phylogeny Department with the concept of assigning your specimen the scientific name *Australopithecus spiff-ario*. Speaking personally, I, for one, might leniently accept the acceptance of your proposed taxonomy, but was ultimately voted down because the species name you selected was hyphenated, and didn't really sound like it might be Latin.

However, we gladly accept your generous donation of this fascinating specimen to the museum. You should know that our director has reserved a special shelf in his own office for the display of the specimens you have previously submitted to the institution. When you visit we are particularly interested in hearing you expand on your theories surrounding the "trans-postulating fulfillment of ferrous ions in a structural matrix" that makes the excellent juvenile Tyrannosaurus Rex femur you recently discovered take on the deceptive appear-

ance of a rusty 9mm Sears Craftsman automotive crescent wrench. Yours in Science, Harvey Rowe, Curator, Antiquities. Apparently an original letter sent out from the Smithsonian Institute and later posted on the internet at www.musinc.com/askami/Laugh/Pages/jokes/j-tru-08.html Thanks to Julius Mistrad.

Modern lingo

STINGFO — Any utterly useless piece of information about a celebrity (after Sting's new CD-Riot). MIDDLOT — A fool who thinks he can make better and better music with bigger and bigger toys. GIMMING — Getting far too involved with unimportant or technical details of something to the detriment of actually getting anything done. "I spent the whole morning gimming about the colour of my new homepage..." SHELPPING — Putting product releases back a few months in order to finish them (stressed developer to marketing manager: "We will

definitely ship the product in three months. ZENMAIL — Email messages that arrive with no text in the message body. SEAGULL MANAGERS — A manager who flies in, makes a lot of noise, shits all over everything, then leaves. WIRED MAGAZINE'S Jargon watch in the October issue.

Animal cracker

OUR SENTIMENTALITY towards animals is a sure sign of the disdain in which we hold them. It is proportional to this disdain. It is in proportion to being relegated to irrelevance, to the inhuman, that the animal becomes worthy of the human ritual of affection and protection, just as the child does in direct proportion to being relegated to a status of innocence and childishness. Sentimentality is nothing but the infinitely degraded form of bestiality, the racist commiseration, in which we ridiculously cloak animals to the point of rendering them sentimental themselves. The trajectory animals have followed, from

divine sacrifice to dog cemeteries with atmospheric music, from sacred defiance to ecological sentimentality, speaks loudly enough of the vulgarity of the status of man himself — it once again describes an unexpected reciprocity between the two.



Citizen K... pet project

was, in this way, much closer to them than we are, who are filled with horror at this practice. They held them to be guilty, which was a way of honouring them. We take them for nothing, and it is on this basis that we are "human" with them. We no longer sacrifice them, we no longer punish them, and we are proud of it, but it is simply that we have domesticated them. Worse, we have made of them a racially inferior world, no longer even worthy of our justice, but only of our affection and social charity, no longer worthy of punishment and death, but only of experimentation and extermination like meat from the butchery.

Next time you buy your pet a new fluffy monogrammed coat, remember that, according to the French philosopher Jean Baudrillard, you are vulgarising the human race. From Citizen K, arthouse animal mag.

Fresh air

THE USUAL vices are taboo at Toronto's O2 Spa Bar.

Birthdays

Prof Struther Arnott, principal and vice-chancellor, St Andrew's University, 62; Norman Ayrton, theatre and opera director, 72; Ronnie Barker, comedian, 67; Jane Bradford, founder member, Women in Banking, 50; Sir Leon Brittan QC, EU commissioner for external trade, 57; Sir Colin Davis, conductor, 69; Martin Denon, rugby league player, 29; Michael Douglas, actor, 52; Andrew Gardner, newscaster, 64; Mike Gibbs, jazz composer, 59; John Hills, racehorse trainer, 38; Sir David Hunt, former diplomat and Mastermind champion of champions (1982), 83; Catherine Zeta Jones, actress, 27; Gen Sir Edward Jones, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, former Commandant, Royal Green Jackets, 60; Felicity Kendall, actress, 50; Prof Sir William Mitchell, physicist, 71; Christopher Reeve, actor, 44; Tim Severin, explorer and author, 66; Michael Stephen, Conservative MP, 54; Vivien Stern, director, Nacro, 55; Commandant Daphne Swallow, former director, WRNS, 64; John Taylor, jazz pianist, composer, 54; Rowena Vining, diplomat, 75; Barbara Walters, television journalist, 65; Nicholas Wood, former president, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 48.

Death Notices

NICHOLSON, Timothy James Gibson, of 5th September. Adored and treasured son, brother, nephew and cousin. Buried at St Martin-in-the-Fields, London, on Monday 20th September 1996 at 11.30am. Friends welcome.

Memorial Services

Sir Anthony Parsons, A Memorial Service for Sir Anthony Parsons GCMB LVO MC will be held in St Martin-in-the-Fields, London, on Monday 2nd October at 3.30pm. To please contact the undertaker, telephone 0171 713 4567. Fax 0171 713 4259.

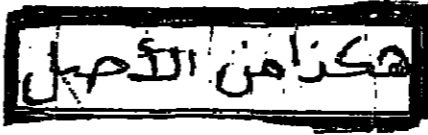
Jackdaw wants Jewels

North America's first oxygen lounge. No food or alcohol is sold, smoking is prohibited, even dancing isn't encouraged — but you can score a natural high by snorting the pure O2 on tap. Poised at the sleek, sinuous bar or relaxing on black leather chaise-longues, young and fit professionals plug into bubbling bongos filled with diced fruit. The oxygen infused with organic lemon, pineapple, or watermelon, sells for about \$1 a minute. "We get a lot of people in their twenties," says Lissa Charron, a co-owner. "People who weren't raised with beer or smoking and who want a healthier social scene. College students... there's no legal age for oxygen." You are what you breathe, more fads and follies from the US, reported in Swing.

Jackdaw wants Jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

Water comp... Air t... Clarke as figu look b... Rogue trad UBS £500... S



Financial Editor: Alex Brummer
Telephone: 0171-239-9610
Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

Air traffic control 'for sale'

Notebook

Simon Beavis
Industrial Editor

THE Government is drawing up controversial plans to rush through the privatisation of Britain's air traffic control service ahead of the general election because of increasing problems in modernising the system through its troubled Private Finance Initiative. It was claimed by unions and construction firms last night.

House of Commons transport select committee. But the Treasury and the Department of Transport are now said to be urgently dusting off the plans and looking at ways to either sell off the air traffic control service or offer it on franchise in a move which could raise between \$800 million and \$1 billion for Treasury coffers ahead of the election.

UK airspace has traditionally been controlled by two centres but they are in desperate need of modernisation. However, a review is underway to decide whether the UK could manage with just one. A first new centre, at Swanwick in Hampshire, is nearing completion at a cost of £20 million but has been dogged by delays and technical problems.

ment is set to revert to privatisation so that the service, once sold off, could raise money for Prestwick on the capital markets should the centre still be seen as necessary. The DOT was non-committal on the issue last night but made it clear that privatisation remained an option. "Privatisation has always been a long-term aim of the Government, but there are no immediate plans for a sale," a spokesman said.

work on the Prestwick centre have made it clear that they believe the project is about to be axed with worrying safety implications and with the loss of around 500 jobs among controllers. In a recent letter to Brian Donohoe, Labour MP for Cunningham South, the project director with AyrTec, a joint venture between Hughes UK and John Laing bidding for the Scottish centre, warned that the decision to abandon the two centre strategy was driven by "wider agendas".

back-up. He adds: "Without such a contingency backup, centres in France or even Iceland would have to try to cope. "Successful governments have concluded that the risk is too great to contemplate." IPMS, the union which represents 3,100 air traffic controllers, has written to the Transport Secretary, Sir George Young, urging him to avoid a "quick political fix" over the issue and abandon any notion of reviving privatisation.

Old Labour hides under umbrella



Edited by Mark Milner

NEW Labour may command centre stage these days but Old Labour lives on in the strangest nooks and crannies of policy-making. One of them contains its ideas for financial regulation. Here, intact, is the party's traditional faith in the efficacy of bugs, all-purpose, all-powerful state agencies with budgets to match. Yesterday, its economic spokesman Mike O'Brien told a conference in London that Labour was toying with merging the Serious Fraud Office with the Securities and Investments Board; the SFO would come under SIB's "umbrella" as its "prosecuting arm".

Prodi, who will unveil his government's budget plans on Friday, is making confident noises that the proposals, to which finance minister Carlo Ciampi is putting the final touches, will "take Italy into Europe". Nor is he going for a soft sell. Italy will face economic ruin if it fails to make the first wave of countries signing up for the single currency, according to Mr Prodi. In the UK the language of economic apocalypse is usually the preserve of those who oppose British participation in monetary union. Current target of their fury is the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke. Mr Clarke may, or may not, be playing to his own rules but his Budget plans will have to conform to those of the cabinet. In other words his Budget will have to keep Britain on course to meet the Maastricht criteria if for no more than to preserve the British option of being able to reject the whole idea.

As he draws up his package Mr Clarke may draw some amusement from the knowledge that while many (not all) of his critics are drawn from the right of his party, Mr Prodi's opposition is the hard left Communist Refoundation. John Redwood and the CR's Fausto Bertinotti, now there is a coalition to conjure with.

Clarke fillip as figures look bright

Tories welcome surprise £0.5bn surplus on latest balance of payments

Sarah Fyfe

CHANCELLOR Kenneth Clarke yesterday gained a fillip both for himself and the Government in the Tory civil war over Europe as latest figures showed the current account firmly in the black and the economy more buoyant than the authorities had estimated.

The Government welcomed the surprise £0.5 billion surplus on the balance of payments in the second quarter, and latest estimates of GDP growth brought the Chancellor a step closer to this year's 2.5 per cent target.

But the unexpectedly good figures meant that the Chancellor's resistance to raising base rates from 5.75 per cent was under renewed pressure, City analysts warned.

Both Mr Clarke and Eddie George, governor of the Bank of England, would have known about the current account and GDP performances before their monthly monetary meeting on Monday, but the Chancellor appeared to have resisted Bank demands for a restraining rise in base rates yet again.

UBS economist Alex Garrard said: "With only subdued inflation left in Mr Clarke's stock of feasible excuses, further rate cuts are almost certainly off the agenda for the time being."

The Government, however, immediately seized upon the improvement in the balance of payments in the three months to June as evidence of significant recovery.

Ian Lang, president of the Board of Trade, said: "The largest surplus for nine years in the United Kingdom's current account is real proof of Britain's business success. This nine-year high is a much

better picture than the market expected and one of which we can justifiably be proud." Labour, however, criticised the weakness in the trade in goods component of the current account. Most of the headline surplus was due to a record surplus on services and investment, while the manufacturing element was almost as deeply in the red as it was at the start of the year.

The one-off Euro 96 football championship was a significant boost to services income, as thousands of overseas visitors added between £100 million and £200 million to the export side of the balance sheet, a rise of 8 per cent compared to the first three months of the year.

The strong performance by

Chancellor's resistance to raising base rates from 5.75 per cent under more pressure

trade in services and investment income is fresh evidence that Britain's non-manufacturing "invisible" sector is the motor which is driving recovery.

This was further confirmed by the most recent figures for GDP growth in the second quarter of the year. Most of the expansion in the economy, now put at 0.5 per cent, came from the services sector, which grew 0.4 per cent, was due to consumer spending.

Officials warned that most of the strong investment income surplus was due to spending on American aircraft.

Business leaders yesterday called for government spending to be slashed by £7 billion to help bring the public finances out of the red and urged the Chancellor to avoid "irresponsible" tax cuts in his November Budget.

Fed holds its key funds rate at 5.25 per cent

Mark Tran in New York

THE Federal Reserve last night boosted President Bill Clinton and bucked pressure from the bulk of its own regional governors to restrain the overnight rate for interbank loans, at 5.25 per cent.

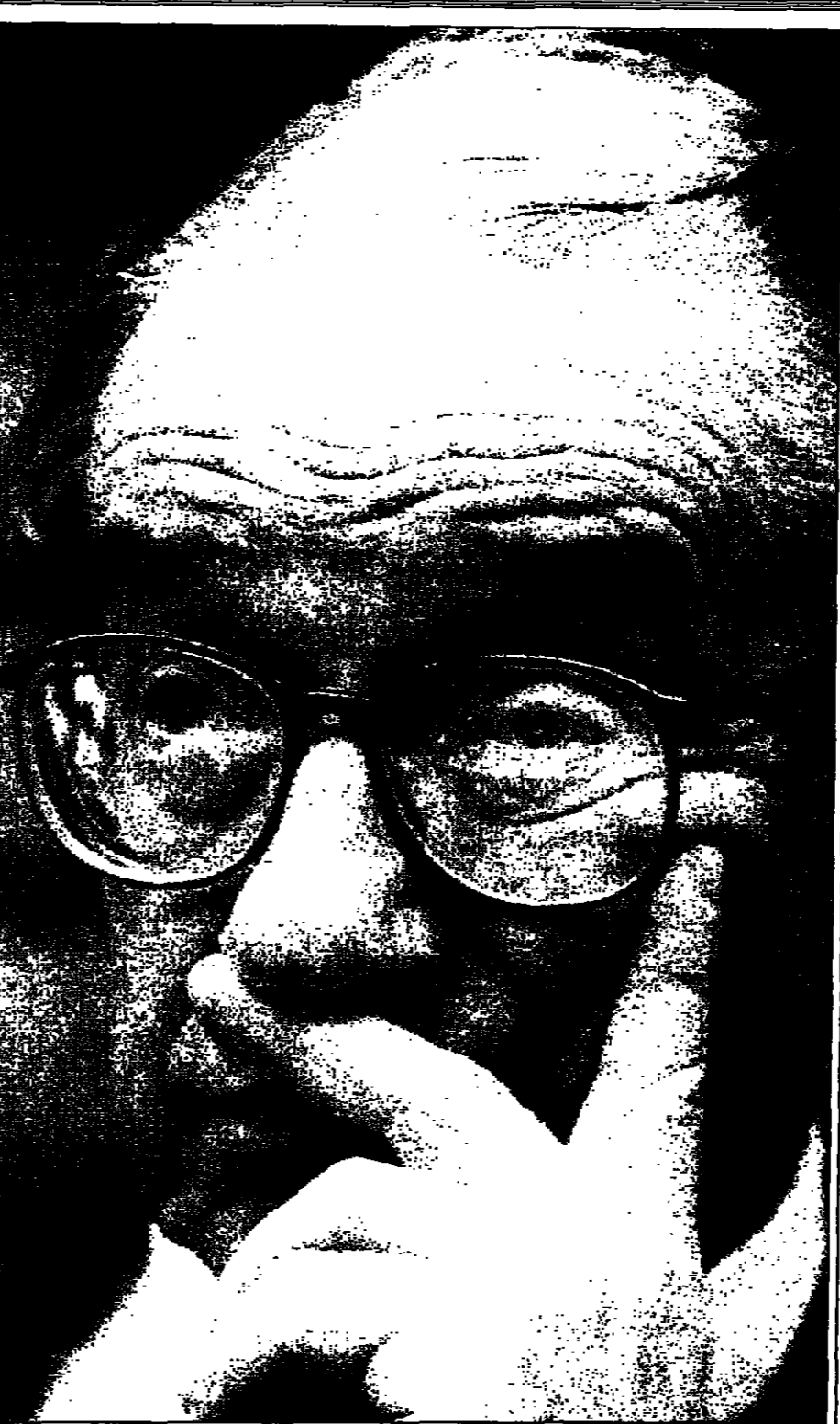
The Fed's decision was greeted by cheers on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange and the Dow immediately surged about 30 points, sending shares well into record territory. But later fell back substantially on fears that rates would rise after the presidential elections in November.

The decision came as a mild surprise to Wall Street, which had been expecting a quarter-point rise amid growing signs of wage pressure. One economist said chairman Alan Greenspan and his board must have convinced regional hawks that such pressures would abate in the coming months.

"If they're right, financial markets will rejoice. But if they're wrong, we will all be losers when they have to bring the economy to its knees," Anthony Chan, of Banc One Investment Advisors, said.

The US economy has been a politician's dream, especially for Mr Clinton, poised to win a second term because of low unemployment, steady growth and little inflationary pressure.

Unemployment fell last month to 5.1 per cent, its lowest level in seven years. Although it stood flat yesterday, it is expected that the Fed will raise rates at its next meeting on November 13, just days after the election. A Reuters report, which triggered an FBI investigation, shows pressure is building on Mr Greenspan to take pre-emptive action, especially because of a tightening labour market. Eight of the 12 Fed regional bank presidents are said to favour a rise in the discount rate, the



In charge... Fed chairman Alan Greenspan, whose decision surprised Wall Street

largely symbolic rate at which the Fed lends to banks. The inflation hawks received ammunition for their view yesterday, when an International Monetary Fund official hinted at the unsustainable rate of

America's economic expansion. "Possibly, one could see some overheating already," the official said. The US unemployment rate had already fallen beyond the so-called "natural" rate, below which inflation starts to build, he said.

Rogue trader cost UBS £500,000

Dan Atkinson

SECURITIES group UBS lost nearly half a million pounds through the activities of a rogue trader who defied orders on secret dealing and hid his trades. The bank lost a further \$8.9 million on legitimate deals that had been misrecorded to hide losses.

Action by regulators against the rogue trader and one of his subordinates seems to draw the line under a number of incidents of wrongdoing at UBS in the early 1990s. It is thought that no further inquiries are under way into regulatory problems between 1992 and 1995.

American-born Mark Larkin has been expelled from the City and fined £10,000 with £4,500 costs. He worked on the UBS desk dealing in warrants and convertibles - instruments allowing the holder to take shares at some future date. Between July and October 1994 he disobeyed instructions forbidding him to increase his market positions.

Mr Larkin, who is no longer in the United Kingdom, hid his illicit trades by failing to book them at the correct time and by "warehousing" them with his French counterparty. He has also admitted failing to prevent one of his staff, James Keen, from hiding losses on legitimate positions. Mr Keen, between March and May 1994, tried to defer discovery of dealing losses by mismarketing his positions.

Both men are thought to have believed they knew better than the market and that their trades would come good. Mr Keen, who no longer works for UBS, was fined £2,000, with costs of £4,500. UBS, which has admitted failing speedily to identify the mismarketing by Mr Keen, has been fined £20,000 with a reprimand and £8,000 costs.

All fines and other penalties were announced yesterday by the Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), the agency that polices exchange-based businesses. UBS, owned by the Union Bank of Switzerland, is one of the largest City investment houses.

Goldman Sachs appoints a new managing director - 70 times

It's the title that counts - or is it? DAN ATKINSON investigates

GOLDMAN Sachs, bulwark against unprofitability, lax fiscal policies and unsound money, may be succumbing to an equally deadly form of economic degeneration - title inflation. The Wall Street bank is expected to announce the creation of a new rank just below its much-prized partnership level... managing director.

Well, not exactly a new rank. Already, all 147-odd Goldman partners are entitled to style themselves in this way. The new, upstart managing directors - there will be as many as 70 in all - will be Goldman's equivalent of life peers, but insiders will know they aren't quite the real thing. To British observers, accustomed to a rough ratio of one managing director to one

company, the idea of a single firm boasting 217 of them seems a touch excessive. The title, however, has a different meaning on Wall Street, and anyway, Goldman already bestows vice-presidential rank on several thousand employees around the world.

It is from among these vice-presidents - also known as executive directors - that the new managing directors will be drawn. Americans generally are

reputedly fond of titles. As the gag has it, spell your own name and you're a graduate, get a job and you're a vice-president, spell someone else's name and you're a professor. But Goldman has, until now, kept its ranks to just four: associate, analyst, vice-president and partner.

Fearing, however, that the bottleneck below partner level may tempt frustrated would-be partners to defect, it has, after due consideration, brought the new grade into being, along with a new "intermediate" salary.

The chosen few will be named later this autumn, coinciding with the biennial election of an even more fortunate group, the new partners. For some of the new MDs, promotion will mean they are on the fast-track to partnership. For others, it will be a consolation prize for permanent exclusion from the very top. None will be quite sure into which category he or she fits, but Goldman hopes all will be cheered by their promotion. In other words, not inflation, but affiliation.

Eurotunnel fears over debt deadline

Uncertainty over Eurotunnel's future was heightened last night as it became clear that the cash-strapped company is unlikely to meet next Monday's expected deadline for renegotiating nearly £3 billion of debts with its 220-strong consortium of banks, writes Patrick Donovan.

Well-placed sources admitted that negotiations were still incomplete, even though chairman Sir Alastair Morton earlier this month said that the company was just "eight hours" away from a funding solution.

Meanwhile, the mandate for Eurotunnel's two "referees", Lord Wakeham and Robert Balmier, who were appointed by the French courts to arbitrate between the company and its bankers, expires next Monday and they are not expected to serve another term. Without their intervention, prospects for an agreement look poor, say market sources. However, the situation was further confused as other company sources said Eurotunnel had always insisted that funding would be agreed by the end of the month.

PCT three must bid for their company

Patrick Donovan
City Editor

THREE directors of Glasgow-based engineering company PCT were forced to launch an £11.5 million bid for their own company after being formally criticised by the Takeover Panel for breaching City regulations, it emerged yesterday.

Stuart Wilson, chairman of the USM-listed company, managing director Paul Agnew and director Lawrence Grainger were ordered to make the offer because they failed to inform the Panel that they had built up a holding of over 50 per cent.

This infringed strict takeover regulations which oblige any group of investors, or "concert party", to disclose details of any holding over 30 per cent obliging them to make a full bid. The Takeover Panel also criticised PCT's advisors Allied Provincial Securities for its "wholly inadequate" advice during the deal. And, in what is regarded as a highly unusual statement, the Panel raised questions about the advice given by the company's legal advisors, the City's Baker & McKenzie. The statement follows the public announcement in August that the three directors had launched a formal bid for their own company which manufactures welding equipment and power tools. The Takeover Panel said that all three directors had made "repeated breaches" of its code, building up a combined holding of more than 50 per cent as long ago as October 1993.

per cent obliging them to make a full bid. The Takeover Panel also criticised PCT's advisors Allied Provincial Securities for its "wholly inadequate" advice during the deal.

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TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS

Australia 1,9075	France 7.71	Italy 2.327	Singapore 2.14
Austria 18.04	Germany 2.2825	Malta 0.5450	South Africa 8.81
Belgium 46.90	Greece 364.00	Netherlands 2.58	Spain 192.00
Canada 2.0785	Hong Kong 11.72	New Zealand 2.1675	Sweden 10.12
Cyprus 0.8680	India 55.50	Norway 0.8050	Switzerland 1.6520
Denmark 8.8075	Ireland 0.6455	Portugal 283.50	Turkey 195.674
Finland 6.98	Israel 4.93	Saudi Arabia 5.8050	USA 1.52

Supplied by NatWest Bank (excluding Indian Rupee and Israeli Sheqel)

Owat pulls plug on syphoned funds

Nicholas Bannister

PRIVATISED water companies have been caught using funds belonging to their core businesses to finance the activities of their non-regulated business in a breach of guidelines laid down by Ofwat, the industry regulator.

In a devastating critique, Ian Byatt, the director general of Ofwat, yesterday highlighted ways in which associated companies had been able to benefit from the failure of the core companies to ensure value for money for customers.

He said the core businesses — water and sewerage — had carried out inadequate market testing before awarding contracts to associated companies, had used out-of-date costs for pricing specialist services, or had paid the

finances of the core water and sewerage businesses are meant to be ring-fenced to prevent their funds being used to subsidise other group activities.

An Ofwat spokeswoman said that a six-month long Ofwat review had identified two cases of cross-subsidies — totalling £2.9 million — and uncovered other cases where procedures could have allowed cross-subsidies to take place.

All the companies had agreed to take "corrective action" to comply with Ofwat's guidelines. The earlier failures to comply would be taken into account at the next price review and could result in slightly tougher price regimes for individual companies.

Mr Byatt said the Ofwat review had shown the need for improved scrutiny of company compliance by their auditors. While it was not the regulator's job to audit com-

Tarmac axe out as debt mounts

1,400 jobs are set to go at a cost of £65m, reports Tony May

TARMAC'S debts mounted and losses more than tripled in the first half of the year as the construction group set aside £65 million to axe 1,400 jobs. The cuts followed a £600 million deal in March that saw Tarmac swap its housebuilding division for Wimpey's construction and aggregates operations.

Announcing a jump in losses from £15.9 million to £58.3 million, Chris Bunker, finance director, said: "Debt is at an unacceptable level and the management is focused on reducing our borrowings."

He said group debt rose by £163.5 million to £511.6 million in the six months to June 30. This represented gearing of 66 per cent and he must cut this back to 30 or 40 per cent over the next two or three years by improving both profit margins and the quality of earnings.

City analysts said they would be cutting their forecasts for the group's full-year profits from about £65 million to some £70 million. They said that after stripping out the redundancy costs, the group's underlying profits — down from £29.1 million to £6.7 million — were at the bottom end of expectations due to tough markets and bad weather which hit winter projects.

Neville Simms, the chief executive, said of the first-half figures: "In a year of transition for the group, the results are neither representative of the true underlying performance of the businesses, nor of their potential... The outlook for the medium term and beyond is positive."

He said that while the benefits of the swap had so far failed to feed through, the restructuring would yield bigger-than-expected savings of £35 million a year and there would be some benefit in the second half.

Mr Simms said the Euro-



New venture... Neville Simms, chief executive, gets on track PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN POTTER

Climb in prices leaves business jealous of US

WATER prices rose by more than double the rate of inflation during 1995/96, making Britain one of the most expensive countries in the industrialised world, according to a survey of business users published yesterday, writes Nicholas Bannister.

National Utility Services, which examined prices in 15 countries, said that water costs for UK businesses rose 4.9 per cent in the year to July and would continue to rise until the end of the century.

The service's director, Andrew John, said: "Despite some modest attempts by the industry regulator, Ian Byatt, to introduce competition into the industry, water is still primarily

Precious water	
Price per cubic metre 1996	Price increases, per cent, 1995-96
94.77	Netherlands 7.50
96.23	Belgium 5.73
93.58	France 5.21
63.94	UK 4.94
25.51	Canada 4.93
29.73	South Africa 3.88
42.12	Spain 3.82
122.27	Germany 2.69
26.10	Norway 2.33
48.58	Sweden 1.91
42.74	Irish Rep. 0.33
54.43	Italy 0.18
55.58	Finland 0
33.09	US -1.47
65.80	Australia -2.99

Source: National Utility Services Ltd

Foreign investment up 40pc

Mark Tran

FOREIGN direct investment increased by 40 per cent last year to a record \$315 billion (£207 billion) as companies spread their operations around the world in response to competitive pressures, liberalisation and new investment opportunities, according to a new report published yesterday.

The new data in World Investment Report 1996, published by the United Nations

Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad), shows that US companies were the most active foreign investors, putting \$96 billion outside America.

The UK emerged as the favourite destination for American and other foreign investors. Britain accounts for nearly half the direct investment by Japanese companies in Europe, and they expect the UK to be the tenth most promising country in the world for investment in the medium term. Investors

are attracted to Britain because of low costs and corporate taxes compared to other EU countries, Unctad reports.

Foreign direct investment in Britain reached \$30 billion last year, half of the figure for the US. Outflows from the UK reached a record of \$80 billion, going mostly into large-scale investments in its main export markets, the US and other European Union countries. Britain invested \$10 billion in America. Once again the Anglo-Dutch corporation Royal Dutch Shell was

ranked by Unctad as the world's largest multinational in terms of foreign assets.

The report notes that the flows of foreign direct investment are uneven and many developing countries, particularly in Africa, obtain very little and risk being marginalised. In recent years, annual flows to Africa have been around \$5 billion.

World Investment Report 1996: Investment, Trade and International Policy Arrangements. <http://www.un.org/pubs/isa.htm>

There had been a slide in revenues from road maintenance but this had been partly offset by a new venture into railway track maintenance. This started in March with purchase of

Centrac, and the formation of a GTRM, a joint venture with GEC Alsthom.

Tarmac confirmed that it is in "serious talks" with Sime Darby with a view to forming a joint venture.

Eighties revival, after a fashion

OUTLOOK/Laura Ashley's recovery is slow, reports ROGER COWE

AN Iverson, the chief executive, appointed last year to haul Laura Ashley out of the trough it fell into in the late 1990s, said yesterday that the results for the first half of the year were "right on target".

But, with sales slipping and profits leaping to a level of last year's pitiful level, she still has a hard task ahead to hoist the company back to acceptable health.

The 5 per cent dip in sales to £156 million was due mainly to disposals and shop closures but comparable shop sales have also slipped on the Continent and in the US. Profits have improved thanks to cost savings, with the pretax figure up from £3 million to £5 million, but are still marginal.

Even so, recovery has been sufficient to pay the first interim dividend since 1988.

A lot has happened since Ms Iverson took over. She has constructed an entirely new and almost entirely female management team. She has also addressed the key issue of the brand, which had become confused and dated since its early 1990s heyday.

More detailed operational matters have been tackled, such as the US store portfolio, manufacturing costs at the network of Welsh factories and the potential for using the brand in different ways.

But in a fashion business, even one as essentially timeless as the Victorian-inspired frocks and furnishings which made the company's name, the product is the big issue — and it takes time to change the product.

Basha Cohen took over as design and buying director at the start of the year but her

News in brief

Rank pays £95.6m for Tom Cobleigh

RANK, the leisure conglomerate, yesterday announced it was buying the specialist pub company Tom Cobleigh for £95.6 million. The offer of 40p per share is backed by 100 per cent of Tom Cobleigh's shareholders, including the directors. The deal will give Derek Mapp, Tom Cobleigh's founder and managing director, a profit of about £6.3 million. The company was floated last November at 150p a share. Until the past few days, the Bolton-based Yates Brothers Wine Lodges had been tipped as the most likely purchaser of Tom Cobleigh.

Analysts described the price being paid by Rank as "full". But Rank's chief executive, Andrew Teare, said Tom Cobleigh was a fast-growing business. It operates 44 branded pubs under the motto "Unspoilt pubs for nice people" in Yorkshire and the Midlands. It plans to open a further 10 pubs before the end of the year. — *Pauline Springett*

Warning knocks AT&T shares

Shares of AT&T plunged yesterday after the telecommunications giant warned that profits in the second half of the year will come as much as 10 per cent below Wall Street forecasts.

The profit warning came in a letter from chairman Robert Allen to shareholders, who said that earnings were being affected by its investments in local, online and wireless services as well as infrastructure to provide new communications and information services.

"Further, we currently believe that competitive pressures will continue for the remainder of the year and we are intensifying our marketing efforts," Mr Allen wrote.

AT&T is one of the most widely held shares on Wall Street and its fall dragged down the US stock market, already on edge because of a meeting of the Federal Reserve's policy-making Open Market Committee. In morning trading, AT&T was down 84¢ at \$32. — *Mark Tran in New York*

Jungels heads for Enterprise

BRITISH Gas's exploration and production managing director, Pierre Jungels, has been lured away as chief executive of Enterprise Oil after less than a year in his current job.

Mr Jungels will replace outgoing 59-year-old Mike Pink. The appointment, which yesterday saw shares firm up to 519p, will help settle the succession uncertainty at the top of the company's board. But Enterprise added that chairman Graham Hearne will continue in his post although he is nearing the company's official retirement age of 60.

British Gas is briefing headhunters to look for a replacement for Mr Jungels. — *Patrick Donovan*

Free-for-all aids Hodder

HODDER Headline, the publishing company which helped smash the Net Book Agreement, yesterday insisted that sales are benefiting from the pricing freedom for all — even though pre-tax profits slumped from £2.1 million to £500,000 for the half year to June 30.

Group chief executive Tim Hely Hutchinson said last year results had been unusually high because of the success of thrillers such as John Le Carré's *Our Game*. He forecast that profits would show an increase at the year-end, partly because of additional sales generated by the ending of the industry's price-fixing agreement. — *Patrick Donovan*

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مکان التعمیر

Cricket

Counties look to new dawn

Mike Selvey

IN AN unexpected display of unanimity the counties yesterday agreed proposals for the creation of an England and Wales Cricket Board. Opposition from Warwickshire was quelled and the 18 first-class counties, plus the MCC and Minor Counties, voted 20-0. Last year's county champions had been expected to object to the constitution of the First Class Forum, the organisation that will represent the first-class counties. But after several hours of negotiation at a meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board, all the counties agreed on the way to proceed to the approval of the National Cricket Association. "All the members voted unanimously 20-0 in favour of the creation of the ECB with effect from January 1 1997," the TCCB said. "The proposal will now be passed to the NCA for approval at their meeting on October 16."

The game from top to toe will be run by a 15-strong management board which in theory should be able to provide the game with all the direction it needs. In practice, however, according to the report, "all matters of significant cricketing and financial importance to the first-class game" must be referred to the First Class Forum.

That, in effect, will be the TCCB with a new hat, and it means that, when push comes to shove, the counties will continue to hold sway over matters even if they are contrary to the interest of the national side. A TCCB spokesman said: "The professional game has given its backing, now it is up to the recreational game to do the same."



Sightscreen... Darren Gough, the Yorkshire pace bowler looking forward to England's winter tour of Zimbabwe and New Zealand, having his eyes tested at the squad's general fitness check yesterday.

Sport in brief

Basketball
The London Towers silenced 13,000 Georgians yesterday by beating Vita Tbilisi 87-78 in the European Cup, writes Robert Pryce. From 6-0 down the English champions took charge with a full-court press. "Diamond" Danny Lewis profiting with 20 points and the 41-year-old Cumbrian veteran romping away with 19 points and eight rebounds. The leg-spinner Chris Law is in fourth place and on course for a semi-final berth halfway through the Match Racing World Championship round-robin stage in Dubrovnik, writes Bob Fisher.

Cycling

The Tour of Spain leader Alex Zülle had to be helped from his bike after struggling in 42sec behind his ONCE teammate Olivieriro Rincon on the uphill Ampuriu finish to yesterday's 98-mile 17th stage. The Swiss's team-mate Laurent Jalabert in second and his compatriot Laurent Dufulux picked up bonus time, the Frenchman gaining 18sec overall. Zülle willed in the face of Rincon's strike with three miles left as Jalabert had to cover the team position by tracking Dufulux.

Ice Hockey

Czech put on Lyle's American adventure
The former Cardiff net-minder Stevie Lyle has returned home after his place in one of the United States' top Major Junior A sides was snatched from him because of a strict two-foreigners-per-club rule. Lyle, 16, beat two Canadians at a pre-season training camp last month to get into the Detroit Whalers squad, only to lose out when a Czech

Racing

Blow for Cole as Riyadian is ruled out of Arc

Ken Oliver

PROSPERITY of an English-trained horse winning the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe were weakened yesterday when Paul Cook ruled out Riyadian. The Watcombe trainer has been forced to abandon what he believed was his best ever chance of landing the contest when the colt returned from a weekend gallop "stiff and sore". Riyadian, 12-1 for the Longchamp race a week on Sunday, had deliberately not been run since winning the Jockey Club Stakes at Newmarket in May sidestepping the big summer events for a major crack at the Arc.

The four-year-old was returning from a seven-week break when scoring at Chester 13 days ago. He showed tremendous early pace to give five lengths clear at the half-way stage of that five furlong race and still had two lengths spare over Ashkenaz at the line.

The runner-up opposes on 5lb better terms, but Malibu Man can make his early pace tell on this downhill course and should have the upper hand again. Brian Redd, who rides Malibu Man, can initiate a double on Voyagers Quest (3-30) in the St Ivel 'Gold Cup' Maiden Stakes. Peter Chapple-Hyam's youngster made an encouraging debut at Doncaster 13 days ago when third to Cape Cross. He was running on well at the finish and that experience could give him the edge over newcomer Heritage from John Gosden's Newmarket stable.

At Chester, Calypso Grant (2-50) can make his rubber one spot in the Marford Maiden Stakes. Peter Harris's filly was well supported at long odds on her debut at Salisbury but crossed swords with the highly rated Sarah's yesterday and another success could come in the shape of Kalinka at Goodwood this afternoon. Kalinka appears to have an outstanding chance with bot-

Goodwood runners and riders with form guide

2.30 Prescribed	4.00 Overbury
2.30 KALINKA (opp)	4.00 Malibu Man
2.30 Voyagers Quest	4.00 Jersey
2.30	4.30 Drivins

3.00 BREWSTER & ASSOCIATES AUCTION STAKES 2YO 7f 125, 250, 500, 750, 1000, 1500, 2000, 2500, 3000, 3500, 4000, 4500, 5000, 5500, 6000, 6500, 7000, 7500, 8000, 8500, 9000, 9500, 10000

4.30 PHILLATOR INTERNATIONAL HANDICAP 12 1/2f 10000

5.00 TRELLY CLANNON CLAIMING HANDICAP 12 1/2f 6000

5.30 ST. THOMAS' DAY HANDICAP 12 1/2f 10000

6.00 THE ROYAL SCOTLAND HANDICAP 12 1/2f 10000

6.30 THE DUNDEE HANDICAP 12 1/2f 10000

7.00 THE GLASGOW HANDICAP 12 1/2f 10000

7.30 THE EDINBURGH HANDICAP 12 1/2f 10000

8.00 THE ABERDEEN HANDICAP 12 1/2f 10000

8.30 THE INVERNESS HANDICAP 12 1/2f 10000

9.00 THE GLASGOW HANDICAP 12 1/2f 10000

9.30 THE EDINBURGH HANDICAP 12 1/2f 10000

10.00 THE ABERDEEN HANDICAP 12 1/2f 10000

10.30 THE INVERNESS HANDICAP 12 1/2f 10000

Chester

2.30 Ginger Fox	3.50 The Swan
2.30 Calypso Grant (opp)	4.30 Entrepotaur
2.30 Pericles	4.30 Prince Of Brabant

2.30 CALYPSO GRANT (opp) 2-50, Calypso Grant (opp) 2-50, Calypso Grant (opp) 2-50

3.50 THE SWAN 2-50, The Swan 2-50, The Swan 2-50

4.30 ENTREPOTAUR 2-50, Entrepotaur 2-50, Entrepotaur 2-50

4.30 PRINCE OF BRABANT 2-50, Prince of Brabant 2-50, Prince of Brabant 2-50

Perth (N.H.)

2.10 Rushan Halder	3.40 Rebel King
2.40 To Be The Best	4.10 Broadway
2.10 Ribblesdale	4.10 Truesell

2.10 RUSHAN HALDER 2-50, Rushan Halder 2-50, Rushan Halder 2-50

3.40 REBEL KING 2-50, Rebel King 2-50, Rebel King 2-50

4.10 BROADWAY 2-50, Broadway 2-50, Broadway 2-50

4.10 TRUESSELL 2-50, Truesell 2-50, Truesell 2-50

Results

NOTTINGHAM	EPSON
1-15: 1-15, 2-15, 3-15, 4-15, 5-15, 6-15, 7-15, 8-15, 9-15, 10-15, 11-15, 12-15, 13-15, 14-15, 15-15	1-15: 1-15, 2-15, 3-15, 4-15, 5-15, 6-15, 7-15, 8-15, 9-15, 10-15, 11-15, 12-15, 13-15, 14-15, 15-15

RACELINE
0930 1681
GOODWOOD
CHESTER
PERTH

Dunlop's lire
JOHN DUNLOP'S Passi
Orlando, having the
third run of his career, gained
an easy win ridden by
Giovanni Forte in yesterday's
one-mile Premio Serio at San
Siro, Milan.

Mark Johnston sent three horses, Atlantic Desire, Balladoole Bojan and Maid For Bailies, from his Middleham yard in Yorkshire to Epsom yesterday and the trio, with Jason Weaver riding, obliged at odds of 140-1.

Blinkered today for the first time: CHESTER: 4.50 One For Jeannie, GOODWOOD: 2.30 Silca's My Key; 3.00 Tulsa.

Results
2.30: 1-15, 2-15, 3-15, 4-15, 5-15, 6-15, 7-15, 8-15, 9-15, 10-15, 11-15, 12-15, 13-15, 14-15, 15-15

Ile Offer
Free
17 111

Soccer

Uefa Cup, first round, second leg: Helsingborgs IF 0, Aston Villa 0 (agg: 1-1; Helsingborg go through on away goal)

Door slammed shut on Villa

Tom Evans in Helsingborg

THE nearest Villa came to staying in Europe last night was a long-range shot by Draper that hit the post with only seconds remaining.

Another echo of the Villa Park came when a smooth link-up left Draper with a shooting chance — which he carelessly ballooned into the crowd.

But the Swedes' defensive discipline was the dominant factor as Villa tried to pass their way into scoring situations.

As half-time neared Villa's back line was beaten by a lobbed through-ball to release Mattias Jonsson.

Chances were fleeting and when they came needed a clinical finish.

Villa and their manager Brian Little went in urgently needing to come up with a



Snuffed-out striker... Aston Villa's Dwight Yorke is smothered by Helsingborgs' Andreas Jakobsson last night

PHOTOGRAPH: LEV NART MANSSON

dash of inspiration or at least a gear-change if they were to save their embarrassment at the way the European rookies were dealing with all the Premiership high-fliers had to offer.

Chances were fleeting and when they came needed a clinical finish.

Villa and their manager Brian Little went in urgently needing to come up with a

half Andersson was presented with another simple save.

In the contest between Helsingborgs' massed retreat and Villa's all too predictable attacks it was the Swedes whose tactics worked most effectively.

Their manager Reine Almqvist had earlier insisted that his game-plan would not be based on the no-score option but that was be-

lieved by his team's style on the pitch.

On the hour, with Villa crying out for fresh inspiration and direction, Paul McGrath was introduced as a substitute in place of Nelson Little.

Young's shot was cleared on the six-yard line by the captain Ian Franch.

Within two minutes the League of Wales champions were ahead. A strong run by Bird took him clear down the right. Pike headed back across goal at the far post and Walker could only parry the ball to O'Gorman, who drops home from eight yards.

free-kick that he in fact had awarded.

Villa's grip on Europe was fading fast as, in some despair, Yorke shot well wide from 25 yards.

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Young's shot was cleared on the six-yard line by the captain Ian Franch.

Hamburg 2, Celtic 0 (agg: 4-0)

Burns heated as Celtic crash

NINE-MAN Celtic crashed out of the Uefa Cup on a night of bitterness and frustration at the Volkspark Stadium.

Goals from Karsten Baron and Andre Breitenreiter clinically dismissed Tommy Burns' side from the competition.

Burns himself had been involved in a confrontation with the referee as the players left the pitch at the interval. And to compound

Celtic's agonies, they lost their top scorer Jorge Cadete early in the game when he was carried off after a clumsy foul by the Hamburg defender Stephane Renchouz.

After the match Burns criticised the referee. "The referee's handling of the game left a lot to be desired," he said.

"Our team were also upset over the validity of both Hamburg goals. I will certainly be taking no disciplinary action against Hughes and Mackay."

Burns said that Cadete had a bad hamstring injury and was almost certain to miss Saturday's Old Firm game against Rangers. "It is a severe blow," he said.

Barry Town 3, Aberdeen 3 (agg: 4-6)

Barry caught by Dodds' brace

Grahame Lloyd

A BRACE of goals by Billy Dodds, Scotland's leading scorer, saw off Barry Town's brave attempt to reach the second round.

Two defeats in five days and an injury crisis had left Aberdeen vulnerable and they needed all their resilience to recover from an early setback.

Jenner Park was packed with 6,000 people to see if Barry could go where no League of Wales team had gone before.

Within two minutes the League of Wales champions were ahead. A strong run by Bird took him clear down the right.

On the quarter-hour Barry's euphoria evaporated when a through-ball caught them cold at the back and Dodds strode through to score from just inside the area.

Barry's euphoria evaporated when a through-ball caught them cold at the back and Dodds strode through to score from just inside the area.

In a balanced and pulsating tie, Barry created two chances in a minute but might have regained the lead.

Lloyd's job almost caught out Walker on the far post and French narrowly missed heading home the corner.

But in the 26th minute a peach of a pass by Kirilov helped put Aberdeen back in control.

Midway through the second half Grant up-ended Bird in the box and Ryan sent Walker the wrong way with his spot kick.

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Monaco win without captain

MONACO advanced to the Uefa Cup despite having only 10 men for the last 27 minutes of their second leg at home to Hutnik Krakow of Poland.

penalty, from which Waldemar Adamczyk scored for the visitors. Monaco, 1-0 ahead from the first leg, won 3-1 with two goals by the Brazilian Sory Anderson.

Teamtalk

The independent news and reports service

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Table with 4 columns: Team, Score, Opponent, Score. Lists results for various football matches including Arsenal, Aston Villa, Birmingham City, Blackburn, Bolton, Burnley, Charlton, Coventry City, Derby County, Everton, Ipswich Town, Leeds United, Sheffield Wed, Southampton, Stoke City, Sunderland, Tottenham Hot, Tottenham Hot, Wolves, Wimbledon, Norwich City, Celtic, Rangers, Hull City, Notts County, and QPR.

Result

Soccer Uefa Cup, first round, second leg: Aston Villa 0, Helsingborgs IF 0 (agg: 1-1; Helsingborg go through on away goal).

COCA-COLA CUP Second-round, second leg: Manchester City 0, Lincoln City 1 (agg: 1-5).

Other football results including Hamburg 2, Celtic 0; Barry Town 3, Aberdeen 3; and various league matches.

National League

First Division: Barnet 1, Wokingham 0; Luton 1, York 1.

Second Division: Walsley 0, Walsley 0; Walsley 0, Walsley 0.

Scottish League: Dundee 1, Dundee 1; Dundee 1, Dundee 1.

Rugby Union

Anglo-Welsh Cup: Pool 22a: Treorchy 19, Treorchy 19.

Other rugby union matches including international fixtures and league games.

Cycling: Various cycling race results including time trials and road races.

Coca-Cola Cup: 2nd round, 2nd leg

Manchester City 0, Lincoln City 1 (agg: 1-5)

Sad City fail to pick up Bos

Ian Ross

MANCHESTER City plumed new depths on another wretched night for those who cite to the club are still worthy of a place among English football's elite.

Beaten 4-1 last week by the journeymen of Lincoln City, they produced an equally inept performance at home last night.

Smiling gamely while reality is slapping you about the face is par for the course at the Maine Road follies these days, but the joke has worn pretty thin in recent weeks.

Not being able to find a manager is one thing, being pummelled by a distinctly average Third Division outfit is quite another.

The early rounds of this competition do so often produce unpalatable affairs. And so it was with this game: it was an evening of frantic effort but little or no thought.

Lincoln's approach may be positively ugly but unlike City they can be effective, and ruthlessly so when pitted against defenders who would not look out of place in a pub team.

With 18 minutes gone City's goalkeeper Dible and centre-back Symons made an absolute nonsense of what should have been a simple clearance.

Symons' back-pass clipped the heel of Martin and fell directly in front of Glibert Bos, who could not miss. He did not.

Thereafter City camped in the Lincoln penalty area and proceeded to prove that it is as easy to squander wonderful chances as it is to accept them.

Lincoln's obvious limitations were never truly exposed and, with some mischievousness, they began to seek out of defence to seek yet another goal.

Manchester City: Dible, Symons, Martin, Glibert Bos, Glibert Bos, Glibert Bos, Glibert Bos.

Lincoln: Glibert Bos, Glibert Bos, Glibert Bos, Glibert Bos.

Referee: E. Wolstenhulme (Blastbury).

Rugby League

Yorkshire: Leeds 19, Leeds 19.

Other rugby league matches including international fixtures and league games.

Ice Hockey: Various ice hockey match results.

Basketball: Various basketball match results.

Baseball: Various baseball match results.

Tennis: Various tennis match results.

Table Tennis: Various table tennis match results.

Other sports results including chess and badminton.

Kinnear keen to keep Holdsworth

JOE KINNEAR wants Dean Holdsworth to stay at Wimbledon even though the striker, rated at \$5 million, is still on the transfer list.

The 27-year-old England B international recently returned to the Dons' starting line-up after the early-season row with his manager.

"Dean is still in the best first-class and nothing would give me greater pleasure than if he asked to go off the list," Kinnear said yesterday.

Holdsworth is reported to be the target of Everton, who are seeking cover for the injured Duncan Ferguson and a long-term scoring partner for the Scot after the club's recent dearth of goals.

Meanwhile problems mounted for the Southampton manager Graeme Souness when the deal to sign Paolo Alves from Sporting Lisbon for a club-record \$1.8 million collapsed and the striker returned to Portugal yesterday.

Alves was at Selhurst Park for Monday night's 3-1 defeat by Wimbledon. "I was under the impression every-thing had been sorted out, but certain things have changed and the deal is now dead and buried," said Souness.

"It's a great shame," Leicester's striker Mark Robins has put in a transfer request. Robins, who joined them from Norwich for \$1 million 20 months ago, has been kept out of the first team by the teenager Emile Heskey but will play in tonight's Coca-Cola Cup tie at home to Scarborough because Steve Claridge is injured and Ian Marshall cup-tied.

Other sports news and reports.

Soccer

Champions League: Manchester United v Rapid Vienna

Resurgent Rapid test for United

David Lacey

MANCHESTER United are in urgent need of a stake in the Champions League...

proach their manager's long-standing dream of winning the European Cup...

Ferguson will undoubtedly remind his team of the need for patience and to guard against becoming stretched in the pursuit of goals...



Brits of Paradise... the Lions squad jog off their 60-hour journey amid tropical palms and strength-sapping heat and humidity

Rangers v Auxerre

Gascoigne fit for fight

Patrick Glenn

RANGERS' Champions League ambition, which included winning Group A...

"Personally I feel better and sharper than I did in the first match. I've needed games to get my conditioning better...

Having lost the formidable Laurent Blanc to Barcelona in the summer, Auxerre will be without the injured Franck Silvestre and Ned Zelic in defence...

Lions get to grips with head man Lam and the giant Papuan fruit-bat

Andy Wilson reports from PNG where the Kumuls and their brilliant scrum-half fancy their Test chances against Great Britain

GIANT fruit-bats provided the exotic if rather unnerving sight of the Great Britain tourists as they prepared for this morning's pipe-opening match in Mount Hagen...

mini-bus filled with tackle bags, the four-strong English press corps and his captain Adrian Lam...

A gleaming white van hurtled down the hill towards Lam, and our expat Aussie driver Nigel Hogan asked: "Wasn't that the team manager?"

rest of the Kumuls squad at the Pine Valley Resort, a collection of cabins in the forest just outside Bulolo.

was earmarked for a place on the bench, had been missing all week since the cup final riot. Biri plays for the Kundia Warriors...

Uefa Cup, first rd, second leg: Borussia M'bach (3) v Arsenal (2)

Wenger feeds off Rice

Martin Thorpe in Cologne

INTERNATIONAL Rescue will have nothing on Arsenal if the north London club manage to pull tonight's tie out of the fire...

gladbach are a strange team," he said. "In the German league they won 4-0, then lost 4-0, then they won 5-1, so maybe they will lose 4-0 next against us."

against the Mönchengladbach defence, while their own back line with the confidence of avoiding the sort of errors that led to the Germans' three goals.



Adams... fighting spirit

Rugby Union

Humphreys loss is a gain for Neath hooker

Robert Armstrong on Wales's troubled build-up to tonight's game with the French

THE loss of their inspirational captain Jonathan Humphreys with a hamstring injury is a hammer blow to Wales's chances of beating the French in tonight's international at Cardiff Arms Park...

Wales, who beat the Barbarians with a bit to spare in Cardiff last month, will be seeking a substantial improvement in continuity and passing, though that may prove hard to achieve against the quick-moving French.

Victory is certain to be the overriding aim for a Wales side who have achieved only seven wins, mainly against secondary opposition, in their last 20 internationals.

ITV pulls plug on European Cup

David Phelan

THE turbulent start to the domestic season continued last night when ITV pulled out of the European Cup. But organisers insisted that the competition would go ahead even though the television company's decision could cost the competition about £10 million.

the television money should be distributed and on what times games should kick off.

Snooker

Masterful Williams' stock rises as Bond falls

Clive Everton in Motherwell

THIS month when he was beaten in the opening round of the Sunray Asian Classic in Bangkok by Brian Morgan, the world No. 49, that left him a provisional 23rd. A position he cannot improve this week because no ranking points are at stake.

contract, namely next month's Grand Prix at Bournemouth and November's UK Championship at Preston. And with the withdrawal of Sweater Shop, only one of Sky's three ranking events is sponsored.

White's slump continued

SportsGuardian

Uefa Cup, first round, second leg: Halmstads 2, Newcastle United 1 (aggregate: 2-5)

Swede tooth bites Newcastle

Michael Walker in Halmstad

IT WAS introduced to the travelling Georgies as the "nicest stadium in Sweden". But the fans and players of Newcastle United will take home mixed memories of Orjan Vall Park on the banks of Halmstad's River Nissan.

A stunning volley from Les Ferdinand helped make sure of Newcastle's place in Friday's draw but Halmstads were left ruing their display a fortnight ago, and their goals came too late last night to have Newcastle wobbling.

Along with a safe passage through to the next round, the avoidance of injuries was high on Newcastle's list of priorities, particularly as Beardsley and Ginola were already missing from the action.

Both had been influential in the first leg, with Ginola creating three goals and Beardsley scoring the fourth. That gave Newcastle a significant cushion but, with the knowledge that Halmstads had put three past Parma here last season, an early goal would ease any minor worries that still existed.

Halmstads' manager Tom Prahl clearly had the same concern as he dropped his keeper, Nordberg, from the St James' Park line-up. Nordberg had been at fault for two of the goals that night, while Srnicek had an almost save-free evening.

That situation was reversed immediately when the Czech goalkeeper fumbled a skidding shot from Vougt in the opening minute. Nor was the resulting corner dealt with in a completely convincing manner by the Magpies' defence.

Barton, in his first start since March, looked edgy and vulnerable, and the last thing needed from Batty was another raised fist in Europe, but his hands were high after only two minutes in a confrontation with Lemarsson. The incident ended bizarrely with the referee forcefully pushing Batty away.

After that initial nervous-

ness, though, Newcastle soon settled, with Gillespie prominent down the right and Asprilla, nominally a left-winger, revelling in a roaming role.

It was a sly pass from the Colombian in the ninth minute which created the best opportunity early on. Shearer ran on to the ball inside Arvidsson and met it sweetly but it went narrowly wide.

With Lee tackling regularly and ferociously behind the line, Newcastle had a sound platform which enabled Gillespie to attack the left-back. On most occasions Gillespie chose the outside route and he sent in a quartet of fast, dangerous crosses.

However, two minutes before half-time Gillespie cut inside for the first time and fed Ferdinand. Tommy Anderson was tight on the striker but was flummoxed by Ferdinand's magnificent swivel and volley. The ball was in the back of the net before Hakan Svensson had time to blink.

If that effectively killed the contest then no one told Halmstads. Straight after the interval Vougt had Srnicek diving once again as the physical Swedes continued to battle. Fifteen minutes later Srnicek did well to stop Vougt's shot and when Robert Anderson got to the rebound Peacock was able to block.

Newcastle had not exactly gone to sleep but the Swedes' appetite for the tie was now the sharper. Robert Anderson dragged another shot wide but a quarter of an hour from time Halmstads got the reward their commitment merited when Arvidsson beat Peacock to a ricochet and forced the ball in from a yard.

Five minutes later and Halmstads were ahead, Magnus Svensson beating Clark to the rebound after Srnicek had parried from Vougt.

Halmstads: H Svensson, Jonsson, Y Anderson, Smith, Arvidsson, M Svensson, Lindberg, Selkovic, Elmli, R Anderson, F Anderson, Vougt, Lemarsson (Karlsson, 87). Newcastle United: Srnicek, Barton, Peacock, Albert, Beresford, Gillespie, Batty (Clark, 70), Lee, Asprilla (Kinnon, 78), Shearer, Ferdinand.

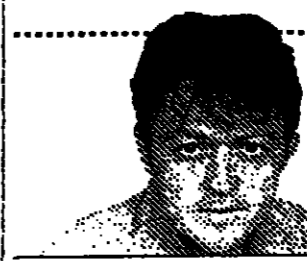
Referee: S Piller (Hungary).



Sharp practice... Les Ferdinand volleys home Newcastle's goal in Sweden last night

PHOTOGRAPH: RAJUL DIXON

Quick, make way for the dying spider



Jim White

YOU may come away cursing the crossbar, fuming at the referee, even reckoning it would have been better to spend the afternoon constructing that set of Ikea bunk-beds after all, but there is one big advantage about watching a 0-0 draw these days: you are spared the contrived goal celebrations.

At Villa Park on Saturday there were no goals, but also there were none of the following: a duck walk, a conga or a squadron of circling aircraft. There were no Groucho Marx waddles, no formation reclining Romans or any kind of sexual congress involving corner flags. No one pulled his shirt over his head to reveal his six-pack stomach, no one lay, legs akimbo, on the turf to be sprayed with Lucozade, and, most refreshing of all, no one stood preening in a tired Chris Eubank pastiche.

Maybe that is why no one scored, the split second of indecision over whether a strike should be marked with a cartwheel or a somersault, a solo pelt or a human pyramid, a samba or a foxtrot resulted in forwards hitting, instead of the back of the net, the woodwork, the goalkeeper and on one occasion Row W of the Holte End stand.

Working out at training what to do when you score a goal now appears to take up more energy than working out how to score in the first place. So organised is it all, clubs appear to be employing choreographers to sharpen up their post-goal act.

Maybe that is why Francis Lee can't find anyone for Manchester City: no manager worth his salt will take over a place where there's just not enough money for a specialist celebrations coach.

It is instructive to see the effect all this is having on the junior end of football. At the park at the bottom of our road last Sunday morning a couple of under-11 teams locked horns in the local mini-league. It wasn't particularly elevated or important, just kids enjoying themselves on the pitch and dads getting apologetic on the sidelines. But when one of the teams opened the scoring after an unedifying scramble

in the second minute, it precipitated a frenzy of activity.

The boy who had applied the final touch pelted half the length of the pitch, arms outstretched, palms upwards, like the Pope conducting mass on the run. He was pursued by half a dozen of his team-mates, several of whom had pulled their shirts over their heads. On reaching the centre circle the boy dived full length across the turf, to be surrounded by the posse also diving, one after the other, alongside him.

Meanwhile the goalkeeper and the one boy with the discipline to stay back in defence lay down in their own goal-mouth, kicking their legs in the air doing the dying spider. A similar procedure was seen after each of the 13 goals in the next half-hour, regardless of the quality of the strike.

Kids today: they have so much more fun than we did, when the celebration choice was limited to the Denis Law (cutt pulled over the knuckles, serious expression on the face, left arm raised).

Nowadays they don't even need goals to start some vigorous public bonding. During Sunday's match the winning of a corner was marked with high-fives all round. And when a penalty was awarded after what, frankly, looked the most theatrical of strikes, marriages appeared to be arranged. Indeed, so wholesale was their aping of the adult game, it came as a surprise on the final whistle that their manager didn't run on to the pitch and send them all over to applaud their parents lining the touchline.

THE blame for this arms-race style escalation of goal observance lies with Nick Hancock's 'They Think It's All Over'. The round in the quiz in which panellists have to offer an explanation as to why certain players did certain things to mark certain goals (and in the case of the Nigeria team in the 1994 World Cup, to mark the corner flags too) has become an invitation to exhibitionists everywhere.

It can be only a matter of time before the player explaining on film why the team behaved as they did sheepishly admits it was because, since they were just a bunch of part-timers from the John Smith's Bitter Central Midlands League, they knew it was the only way they would ever appear on the nation's favourite show. Either that or they got the idea watching the kids down the local park.

Everton the victims as York repeat their giant-killing act

EVERTON, struggling near the bottom of the Premiership, were sent packing from the Coca-Cola Cup last night when they were beaten 3-2 by York City at Bootham Crescent, having drawn the first leg 1-1.

Faul Rideout gave Everton the lead in the 24th minute but York, conquerors of Manchester United in last season's competition, equalised nine minutes later. Bull scored the

second in the 57th minute and Graeme Murty finished off the job four minutes from the end.

Manchester City's fortunes sank to further depths as the First Division side, still unable to attract a manager and struggling to keep their heads afloat in the league, were bundled out at Maine Road, beaten 1-0 and 5-1 on aggregate by Lincoln City of the Third Division.

Match reports, page 14

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Guardian Crossword No 20,767

Set by Chifonie

Across

- Stalk, kept to be eaten by animal (6)
- Nice, open, exotic seed bearer (4,4)
- Plant a representative in the country (8)
- Timid person consumes small dessert (6)
- Entwines sea monster's hair for making furniture (7,5)
- Throw out an item, having moved it to the end (4)
- Old woman is wearing cosmetic? That's hard to digest! (8)
- Comedians put out of beat in cleansing fluids (8)
- Girl's in love in a short time (4)
- Pigment from capital Scottish island put into food (6,6)

Down

- Plans giving away precious stones in planes (6)
- Military intelligence fired worker, an activist (8)
- Winger is to stress alternative (8)
- Pure English spirit (6)
- There's excitement when trickster loses his head (4)
- Light control device ducks hag (3-6)
- A beastly noise from beast of burden under last straw (8)
- Request reliable cooking utensil in tourist ship (8,7)
- Many fancy our menus (8)
- Caught an anguished word or phrase (5)
- Gibson next designed an incubator (7,3)
- It makes one sick, in a way, being understanding (10)

15 Restaurant supervisor loses ultimate spaghetti source (9)
16 The Queen, in undamaged surroundings, is to socialise (8)
18 Look into crash in obstacle race (6)
21 Big-time Native American (5)
22 A love of indigo (4)

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Inside

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